The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 6294 號四十九百二千六第 日九念月二十年丑丁緒光 HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1878. 四拜禮 號壹十三月正英 港香 [Price $2½ per Month.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

January 30, *Laclocheterie*, French frigate, Captain Rieunier, Nagasaki 24th Jan.

January 30, *Lee-yuen*, Chinese str., 734, Tisdall, Shanghai 26th January, General.—C. M. S. N. Co.

January 30, *Charles Maubeau*, French bark, Quatrescous, Whampoa 26th Jan., General.—Landstein & Co.

January 30, *Esmeralda*, British str., 395, Thebaud, Manila 25th January, and Amoy 29th, General.—J. Y. V. Shaw.

January 30, *Japan*, German 3-m. sch., 270, A. Oltmann, Riodanao Island 2nd Jan., Timber.—H. Kleb & Co.

January 30, *Minerva*, Spanish bark, 272, B. Eusesuriere, Manila 19th January, Sapanwood.—Order.

January 30, *Zamboanga*, Spanish str., 351, Aranguren, Haiphong 26th January, Rice.—Landstein & Co.

January 30, *Norna*, British steamer, 506, Walker, Swatow 29th Jan., General.—Kwok Acheong.

January 30, *Emuy*, Spanish str., 202, F. Blanco, Amoy 28th January, General.—Remedios & Co.

CLEARANCES.

At the Harbour Master's Office, January 30th.

Marion, American 3-m. sch., for New York.
Nestor, British steamer, for Shanghai.
E. von Beaulieu, German bark, for Chefoo.
Hailoong, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
Charlotte Andrews, British bark, for Tourou.

DEPARTURES.

January 30, *Lee-yuen*, Chinese steamer, for [illegible]on.

January [illegible], *Taiwan*, British steamer, for Hoihow.

January 30, *Wa[illegible]*, British steamer, for Haiphong.

PASSENGERS.

Arrived.

Per *Lee-yuen*, str., from Shanghai:—Messrs. Burnet and Tong-kin-sing, and 40 Chinese.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., from Manila, &c.:—Mr. N. D. Tucker and 50 Chinese.

Per *Zamboanga*, str., from Haiphong:—Father Bon and 7 Chinese.

Per *Norna*, str., from Swatow:—60 Chinese.

Per *Emuy*, str., from Amoy:—9 Chinese.

Departed.

Per *Taiwan*, str., for Hoihow, &c.:—For Hoihow—Mr. A. Lay. For Haiphong—Mr. C. A. Skatschkoff.

To Depart.

Per *Yesso*, str., for East Coast:—For Amoy—Mrs. J. Henningsen. For Foochow—Mr. J. Henningsen.

Per *Nestor*, str., for Shanghai:—1 European and 1 Chinese.

Per *Charlotte Andrews*, for Tourou:—30 Chinese.

Per *Hailoong*, str., for Swatow, &c.:—20 Chinese.

The following passengers will depart to-day per P. and O. steamship *Mirzapore*:—From Hongkong for Singapore—Mr. Sears. For Calcutta—Messrs. W. M. Davis and T. M. Osborne. For Southampton—Mr. J. S. Taylor. From Shanghai for Venice—Messrs. J. Brand and A. Hickling. For Southampton—Mrs. Murray and five children.

REPORTS.

The Spanish steamship *Zamboanga* reports left Haiphong on 20th January, and had very foggy weather throughout.

The British steamship *Norna* reports left Swatow on 29th January, and had N.W. winds and thick weather.

The French frigate *Laclocheterie* reports left Nagasaki on 24th January. During the first three days fine weather and calms, and after ordinary monsoon.

The Chinese steamship *Lee-yuen* reports left Shanghai on 26th January, and had very fine N.E. monsoon until the 29th instant, when they met with a thick fog. Anchored outside Tamtoo all night.

The British steamship *Esmeralda* reports left Manila on 25th January, and Amoy on the 29th. The first part fine weather and moderate monsoon; the latter part thick, foggy weather and variable winds. Was detained 3 hours on account of fog.

The German three-masted schooner *Japan* reports left Riodanao Island on 2nd January, and had strong N.E. monsoon from the 17th, in 16.22 N. and 118.46 E.; after which hard N.N.E. winds till the 24th, in 18 N. and 118 E., then light N.E. winds to the 28th.

Vessels Expected at Hongkong.
(Corrected to Date.)

David	Antwerp	May 11
Chandos	Cardiff	May 15
Cygnus	Cardiff	May 29
Henry Lippet	New York	June 18
Northampton	Baltimore	July 2
Tiger	Naples	July 17
Regulus	Cardiff	Aug. 14
Moss Glen	Penarth	Aug. 14
Patrie	Cardiff	Aug. 14
Felix Mendelssohn	London	Aug. 19
Hotspur	Antwerp	Aug. 22
Globe	Deal	Aug. 29
Andreas	Hamburg	Sept. 3
Cashmere	Cardiff	Sept. 6
Heola	Pin'g Roads	Sept. 7
G. F. Muntz	Newport	Sept. 17
P. J. Carleton	Liverpool	Sept. 21
Fidelio	Hamburg	Sept. 23
Harkaway	London	Sept. 25
Maria Ravano	Penarth	Sept. 25
Peter	Cardiff	Sept. 29
River Lagan	Cardiff	Sept. 30
Bertha	London	Oct. 2
Forest Belle	Cardiff	Oct. 3
Empire	Newport	Oct. 4
Elcano	Cardiff	Oct. 8
Kaiser	Cardiff	Oct. 9
Wege	Cardiff	Oct. 18
Oscar	Hamburg	Oct. 23
Anna Bertha	Hamburg	Oct. 23
Benedicta	San Francisco	Oct. 25
Lodore	London	Nov. 1
Johann Smidt	Cuxhaven	Nov. 3
Elizabeth Childs	Hamburg	Nov. 2
Minna	Falmouth	Nov. 29
Elizabeth Ostle	Antwerp	Nov. 7
Jettie	Penarth	Nov. 20
Lorne (s.)	London	Nov. 26
Nourmahal	London	Nov. 29
Moray (s.)	Glasgow	Nov. 30
Glengaber	Flushing	Dec. 1
Devana	London	Dec. 3
Meeda (s.)	London	Dec. 3
Otto	Hamburg	Dec. 3
Caldera (s.)	London	Dec. 10
Teucer (s.)	Liverpool	Dec. 11
Sir Harry Parkes	London	Dec. 18
Sedan	Cardiff	Dec. 19

AUCTION SALES TO-DAY.

F. RAPP.
At 2 p.m.
Yellow Metal.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES at Current Rates.

MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.
Hongkong, 27th March, 1876. [21

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

Mr. EDWIN MACKINTOSH has been admitted a PARTNER in our Firms in Hongkong, China, and Japan.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.
1st January, 1878. [1m77

NOTICE.

The Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for Hongkong and China by Messrs. PIGOU, WILKS, and LAURENCE (Limited), Gunpowder Manufacturers, of Dartford and Battle.

MEYER & Co.
Hongkong, January 28th, 1878. [230

NOTICE.

Mr. H. F. MEYERINK has been admitted a PARTNER in our Firm from this date.

MEYER & Co.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1878. [3m74

NOTICE.

The Interest and Responsibility of Mr. JOSEPH PERROTT BARNES in our Firm in China CEASES from this date.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
Hongkong, 31st December, 1877. [76

NOTICE.

I have This Day established myself at this Port as a MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT, under the Style or Firm of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co., who will henceforward conduct the Agency of the Australasian Steam Navigation Company.

G. R. STEVENS.
Hongkong, 29th December, 1877. [84

NOTICE.

Mr. HORATIO GAY JAMES was admitted a PARTNER in our Firm on the 1st January, 1878.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1878. [124

NOTICE.

The AUTHORITY hitherto held by Mr. William O. Howland to Sign our Firm per procuration is hereby WITHDRAWN.

WILLIAMS & Co.
Swatow, January 8th, 1878. [1m148

NOTICE.

Through lapse of time, the Interest and Responsibility of Mr. WILLIAM MAUNSELL REEVES in our Firm CEASED on the 31st December last.

WESTALL, GALTON & Co.
Foochow, 1st January, 1878. [1m149

NOTICE.

Mr. Bernhard Philipp Schmacker is authorized to SIGN our Firm by procuration.

CARLOWITZ & Co.
Canton, Hongkong, and Shanghai,
1st January, 1878. [1m75

NOTICE.

The Interest and Responsibility of our late Partner, Mr. C. EMIL BADE, in our Firm CEASED on the 31st December, 1877; and Mr. RUDOLPH BUSCHMANN has This Day been admitted a PARTNER therein, which now consists of Mr. Eduard Schellhass, Mr. Ludwig Beyer, and Mr. Rudolph Buschmann.

EDUARD SCHELLHASS & Co.
Hongkong and Shanghai,
1st January, 1878. [1m80

NOTICE.

The Interest and Responsibility of Mr. F. RAPP in our Firm CEASED from This Day.

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.
Hongkong, 1st October, 1877. [1m1488

NOTICE.

I have This Day established myself at this Port, under the Style or Firm,

WEST POINT IRON WORKS,
ENGINEERS and BOILERMAKERS,
by
WILLIAM DUNPHY & Co.,
Late Manager of the Novelty Iron Works, Hongkong.

Wm. DUNPHY.
Hongkong, 10th December, 1877. [6m1810

NOTICE.

The BUSINESS hitherto conducted in my Name will, from this Date, be Carried on under the Style of "Grossmann & Co." Mr. G. A. GROSSMANN having become a PARTNER therein.

C. F. GROSSMANN.
Hongkong, January 1st, 1878. [109

NOTICE.

Mr. CHARLES DAVID BOTTOMLEY was admitted a PARTNER in our Firm on the 1st July, 1877.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, 22nd September, 1877. [42

NOTICE.

I have This Day established myself at this Port as a GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

J. Y. VERNON SHAW.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1877. [6m1623

COAL.

Best Quality CARDIFF STEAM COAL for Sale, ex Godown.

Apply to
BATTLES & Co.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1877. [53

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Henry B. Hyde, President.
J. W. Alexander, Vice-President.
Samuel Borrowe, Secretary.
A. A. Hayes, Jr., General Manager for China and Japan.

Principal Office—120, Broadway, New York.

ASSETS $31,700,000.
SURPLUS $5,500,000.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents in Hongkong, China, for the above Company, are prepared to accept RISKS at GREATLY REDUCED RATES and upon Terms very favourable to the Assured.

For full Information and Particulars, apply to

OLYPHANT & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 21st January, 1878. [202

NOTICE.

The Undersigned has been appointed AGENT at This Port for THE POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

W. H. NOTLEY.
Hongkong, 6th June, 1877. [1t34

THE SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agent in Hongkong for the above named Company, is prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE on Buildings and on Goods to the extent of £10,000, at the usual rates, subject to an immediate discount of 20 %.

Attention is invited to a considerable reduction in Premia for LIFE INSURANCE in China.

A. MACG. HEATON.
Hongkong, 27th September 1875. [28

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE.

Policies granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premia contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 17th April, 1873. [33

TO BE LET.

TO LET.

No. 9, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, with Godowns attached.
Nos. 2 and 3, FEDDAR'S HILL.
"BISNEE VILLA," Pokfoolum, Furnished.

Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1878. [11

TO LET.

No. 1, MORRISON HILL.
Also,
GROUND FLOOR of No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

Apply to THOS. G. GLOVER,
No. 7, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 16th January, 1878. [176

TO LET.

The DWELLING HOUSE & OFFICES, No. 1, D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co.
THREE OFFICES in Club Chambers.

Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, 10th January, 1878. [37

TO LET.

A FIRST-CLASS GRANITE GODOWN on the Praya, Wanchi.

Apply to
OLYPHANT & Co.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1877. [tf10

TO LET.

The DWELLING HOUSE at West Point, known as "Shirley House," now in the occupation of Herbert Cope, Esq.

Also,
The THREE LARGE HOUSES (recently thoroughly repaired) known as Fletcher's Buildings, adjoining the Control Department. They may be occupied as entire Dwellings or in Flats, and would be suitable for a Mess or Boarding Establishment.

SPACIOUS GRANITE and COAL GODOWNS, connected with the above, fronting the Harbour and Queen's Road. Stabling.

Apply to
SHARP, TOLLER, and JOHNSON,
Solicitors.
Supreme Court House,
Hongkong, 17th September, 1877. [96

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL 5,000,000 of Dollars.
RESERVE FUND 650,000 of Dollars.

Court of Directors:—
Chairman—H. Hoppius, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—F. D. Sassoon, Esq.
E. R. Belilios, Esq. | A. McIver, Esq.
W. H. Forbes, Esq. | Wilhelm Reiners, Esq.
Hon. W. Keswick. | Ed. Tobin, Esq.

Chief Manager.
Hongkong—Thomas Jackson, Esq.
Manager.
Shanghai—Ewen Cameron, Esq.
London Bankers—London & County Bank.

Hongkong—Interest Allowed.

On Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months 2 per cent. per annum.
For 6 months 4 per cent. per annum.
For 12 months 5 per cent. per annum.

Local Bills Discounted.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
9] Hongkong, 16th August, 1877.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

CAPITAL £800,000.
RESERVE FUND £110,000.

Bankers.
THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
THE CITY BANK.
THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

The Bank's Branch in Hongkong grants Drafts on London and the Chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange; and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange business.

Local Bills discounted, and interest allowed on Current Accounts and on Deposits for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application. [1813

POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Head Office—34, Cannon Street, London.

Indian Office—6, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

PARTICULARS OF ASSETS
held for Positive Assurers by Trustees, in their Own Names, in Special Trust, for the Payment of Claims.

To the 3rd Quarter ended 30th September, 1877.

General Life Fund, Sir R. Couch, Messrs. Hughes and Macandrew (Trustees), Reduced 3 per cent. Annuities, £67,032 18s. 11d.

Bengal Life Fund, Official Trustee, Bengal, Government Paper, £27,270 0s. 0d.; Cash, held by Trustees, in course of Investment, £130 16s. 4d.

Madras Life Fund, Official Trustee, Madras, Government Paper, £16,860 0s. 0d.; Cash, held by Trustees, in course of Investment, £105 10s. 1d.

Bombay Life Fund, Official Trustee, Bombay, Government Paper, £7,100 0s. 0d.; Cash, held by Trustees, in course of Investment, £151 15s. 3d.

Total Life Fund Securities purchased with Policyholders' Premiums, £118,651 0s. 7d.

Guarantee Fund, Right Honourable Sir R. Couch, Messrs. Macandrew and Hughes (Trustees), Consols, Guarantee Fund Securities purchased with portion of Shareholders' Capital, £51,080 2s. 11d.

Total Amount held on 30th September, to protect Assurances, £169,731 3s. 6d.
* or Rs. 16,97,311-12.

The Trustees' Receipts for the Government Securities and Cash Standing in their Names, are filed in the respective offices, for inspection of the respective Assured.

N.B.—Audit Sheets, with copies of the Trustees' receipts for Assets held, are published at close of each year.

* This amount is held by the Trustees above specified, as their separate receipts, On View, testify. It is solely available for claims by Death Surrenders and Profits. The Indian Life Funds have, in common with the Home Fund, a lien on the Guarantee Fund.

Published for general information, by order of the Board.

A. B. ANTRAM,
Agent in Hongkong, Manager.
W. H. NOTLEY, Esq. [197

T. ALGAR,
HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENT,
Rents Collected.
BROWN, JONES & Co.,
UNDERTAKERS,
MOURNING STATIONERY, &c.,
Monuments Erected.
79] 9, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

NOTICE.

T. J. THOMAS, the English Submarine Diver, has all the Appliances ready for Wrecking. Salvage Operations undertaken, and Property recovered from Wrecks up to Twenty-five fathoms.

Temporary Address, care of P. and O. Office, Galle.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1877. [3

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

The Undersigned has received instructions to Sell at Public Auction,

THIS DAY,

the 31st January, 1878, at 2 p.m., at Messrs. Spratt's Cosmopolitan Dock,—

The YELLOW METAL of the Norwegian Bark "Vega."

Terms of Sale.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7.

F. RAPP,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [247

PUBLIC AUCTION.

The Undersigned has received instructions from Captain Thebaud to Sell at Public Auction, on

TUESDAY,

the 5th February, 1878, at 2 o'clock p.m., at his Residence, No. 1, West Terrace,—

The whole of the English and Colonial made HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., comprising:—

Blackwood Marble-top CENTRE TABLE.
English-made Inlaid Drawing-room CHAIRS.
Blue Rep Covered Embroidered Lady's CHAIRS.
Blue Rep Covered English-made EASY CHAIRS and FOLDING CHAIRS; TEAKWOOD CANTERBURY, CORNER WHATNOTS and TABLES; CHIMNEY GLASS, CHROMO-LITHOGRAPHS, ENGRAVINGS, FENDER and FIRE IRONS, HEARTHRUGS, and ORNAMENTS.
TEAKWOOD DINING TABLE and WHATNOTS, English-made MAHOGANY SIDEBOARD, American-made Dining-room CHAIRS, Marble Mantel-piece CLOCK, DINNER, DESSERT, and BREAKFAST SETS, GLASSWARE, and PLATED WARE.
Double IRON BEDSTEADS, WARDROBES, CHEST of DRAWERS, English-made Mahogany TOILET TABLE, with GLASS; English-made Mahogany Marble-top WASHSTAND, Teakwood DAVENPORT, &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued, and the whole to be on view on and after Monday, the 4th February.

Terms of Sale.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchasers' risk on the fall of the hammer.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [248

PUBLIC AUCTION.

Lammert, Atkinson & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on a date hereafter to be mentioned,—

The British Barque
"ALPHINGTON,"
of 326 Tons Register, or of about 3,000 piculs Carrying Capacity, with all her Tackle, Apparel and Inventory.

The Vessel was built under Lloyds' special survey at Berwick-on-Tweed in 1856, Classed 12 years A1 at Lloyds, and continued in 1868 A1 for 8 years. She was re-metalled over felt in London in July, 1875.

Terms.—One-third of the Purchase Money to be paid on fall of the hammer, the remainder upon transfer being effected. The Vessel is at Purchaser's risk immediately after fall of hammer.

Hongkong, 24th January, 1878. [183

EX LATE ARRIVALS.

RUSSIAN CIGARETTES.
PERAMBULATORS.
ICE PITCHERS.
SADDLES.
BRIDLES.
WHIPS.
SPURS.
HORSE BRUSHES.
SADDLE CLOTHS.
GIRTHS.
LETTS'S DIARIES (with Anglo-Chinese Calandar) for 1878.
COIR MATS.
SCARVES, in the Newest Styles.
SHIRTS, in the Newest Styles.
COLLARS, in the Newest Styles.
IRON and BRASS BEDSTEADS.
HAVANA CIGARS.
TAUCHNITZ NOVELS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, 26th January, 1878. [65

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

Established 1865.

Wm. CRUICKSHANK,
DISPENSING CHEMIST & DRUGGIST,
Importer of Druggists' Sundries,
Patent Medicines, and Toilet Requisites.

MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF AERATED WATERS.

Physicians' Prescriptions Carefully Prepared in strict accordance with the Formula of the British Pharmacopoeia.

SHIP AND FAMILY MEDICINE CHESTS supplied and refitted.

Passenger Ships Supplied.

N.B.—All business communications should be addressed VICTORIA DISPENSARY. [85

C. L. THEVENIN,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT
and Importer of
FRENCH GOODS.

Depot for Vichy Waters and Special Agent for Pinaud's Perfumes and Antoine's Inks!

Gentlemen's Best French Boots and Shoes.

44, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG.

NOW ON SALE.

Bound Volumes of the *China Overland Trade Report* for the Year 1876.
Price Ten Dollars.
Apply at the *Daily Press* Office.
Hongkong, February, 1877.

KWONG HING CHEUNG & CO.
COAL MERCHANTS,

Have always on hand for SALE every description of COAL at Moderate Prices.

Mr. AH YON has been appointed Manager, and all Orders addressed to him at 57, Praya, or to Mr. Fat Jack, at 30, Hing Lung Street, will receive immediate attention.

Hongkong, January 1st, 1878. [68

INTIMATIONS.

JUST RECEIVED.

A COMPLETE Assortment of Ladies' and Gentlemen's
PARIS-MADE BOOTS.
Also, an Invoice of
PINAUD'S PERFUMERY.

C. L. THEVENIN,
No. 44, Queen's Road.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [241

FOR SALE AT AMOY.

Souvenir, a Black North China Pony. Sound and Quiet, has been constantly ridden by a lady.

Apply to
Messrs. WILSON, NICHOLLS & Co.,
Amoy. [1m151

WANTED, by a Gentleman of 14 years' experience in China, a SITUATION as BOOKKEEPER or AGENT in any one of the Treaty Ports of China or Japan. Address C. D. K., Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1878. [1m147

WANTED, by a Young Man at present in Bombay, an ENGAGEMENT as CLERK or BOOKKEEPER in a house in China or Japan. Has had three years' experience in India. Can leave India in January. Address G. R. N., care of *Daily Press* Office.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1877.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

NOTICE.—TONG YUT, of No. 83, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, Trader in European Goods, carrying on business there in co-partnership with Tong Hip-wo, now absent from the Colony, under the style or firm name of "Koong Cheong," having been adjudged Bankrupt under a Petition for Adjudication of Bankruptcy filed in the Supreme Court of Hongkong in Bankruptcy on the 21st day of January, 1878, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Honorable Charles Bushe Plunket, the Registrar of the said Court, at the First Meeting of his Creditors to be held before the said Registrar on the 8th day of February, 1878, at Eleven of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the said Court.

The said Charles Bushe Plunket is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. Sharp, Toller, and Johnson are the Solicitors acting in the Bankruptcy.

A Public Sitting will hereafter be appointed by the said Court for the said Bankrupt to pass his final examination and to make application for his order of discharge, of which sitting notice will be given in the "Hongkong Government Gazette."

At the First Meeting of Creditors the Registrar will receive the Proofs of the Debts of Creditors, and the Creditors may choose an Assignee or Assignees of the Bankrupt's Estate and Effects.

Notice is hereby also given to all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt or that have any of his Effects, not to deliver the same but to the said Registrar.

Hongkong, 26th January, 1878. [1w225

In the Goods of
GEORGE UNDERHILL SANDS,
Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all Creditors and other Persons, having any CLAIMS or DEMANDS upon or against the Estate of GEORGE UNDERHILL SANDS, late of Victoria, Hongkong, Patent Slip Proprietor and Shipbuilder, who died at Victoria, aforesaid, on the 30th day of October, 1877, and whose Will was duly proved, Probate whereof was granted to William Howell Forbes of Victoria aforesaid, Esquire, the Executor therein named, by the Supreme Court of Hongkong, in its Probate Jurisdiction, on the 8th day of November, 1877, are hereby required to send, in writing, the Particulars of their CLAIMS or DEMANDS to the said William Howell Forbes, at his address aforesaid, or to the Undersigned, William Henry Brereton, the Solicitor of the said William Howell Forbes, at the Office of the said William Henry Brereton, 29, Queen's Road, Hongkong, on or before the 1st day of May, 1878.

And Notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the last mentioned day, the said William Howell Forbes will proceed to distribute the Assets of the said George Underhill Sands amongst the Parties entitled thereto, having regard to the Claims of which the said William Howell Forbes shall then have had notice; and that the said William Howell Forbes will not be liable for the Assets, or any part thereof, so distributed, to any person of whose Claim the said William Howell Forbes shall not have had notice at the time of the distribution.

Dated this 1st day of January, 1878.

Wm. H. BRERETON,
Solicitor for the said
1m111] William Howell Forbes.

The Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of their Goods in Hongkong and China by Messrs. J. & R. Tennent, Glasgow, and Messrs. David Corsar & Sons, Arbroath.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
Hongkong, January, 1867. [16

"JAPAN GAZETTE."
Yokohama.

Having been appointed Agent in Hongkong and South China for the *Japan Gazette*, "Japan Gazette Summary," and "Hong List." Orders for Subscriptions and Advertisements for that Paper will be received at this Office.

Hongkong Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, 23rd May, 1877. [209

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

From this date, until further notice, a discount of Twenty per cent. (20 %) upon the current local rate of Premia will be allowed upon Insurances effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 27th June, 1872. [24

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of $50,000 on any one

FIRST-CLASS RISK,
at Current Rates.

A Return of Twenty per cent. (20 %) will be made on the premium charged on all Insurances, such Return being payable on the issue of the Policy.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents,
Imperial Fire Insurance Company.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1874. [27

BATAVIA SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—

MARINE RISKS.

Policies at Current Rates, payable either here, in London, or at the principal ports of India, Australia, and the East.

A Brokerage of Thirty-three and One-third per cent. will be allowed on all LOCAL RISKS.

FIRE RISKS.

Policies granted on First-class Buildings to an extent of $20,000.

A Discount of Twenty per cent. (20 %) upon the Current Local Rates will be allowed on all premium charged for insurance, such discount being deducted at the time of the issue of Policy.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1874. [1

INTIMATIONS.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The NINTH ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Company's Office, 39, Queen's Road, Victoria, at Half-past Two o'clock in the Afternoon of FRIDAY, the 15th February next, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1877.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 2nd to the 15th February, both days inclusive.

By Order,
JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 19th January, 1878. [190

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The Ninth Ordinary Annual Meeting of Shareholders in the above Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 7, Queen's Road, on MONDAY, the 18th February next, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, to receive a Statement of Accounts for the year 1877, the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.
Hongkong, January 26th, 1878. [223

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 4th to the 18th February next, both days included.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.
Hongkong, January 26th, 1878. [224

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The DIVIDEND at the Rate of 3 % or $2.25 per Share, declared at the Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting of Shareholders held This Day, will be payable at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on and after MONDAY, the 28th instant.

Shareholders are requested to apply at the Office of the Company for Warrants.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
P. A. DA COSTA,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 25th January, 1878. [217

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The DIVIDEND of $2.50 per Share, declared at the Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting of Shareholders held To-day, will be payable at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on and after the 1st proximo.

Shareholders are requested to apply at the Secretary's Office for Warrants.

By Order of the Directors,
LOUIS HAUSCHILD,
Secretary.
Hongkong, January 25th, 1878. [5d218

NOTICE.

OFFICE OF THE YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

Shanghai, January 7th, 1878.

In accordance with a Resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting of July 5th, 1877, the Directors have declared a DIVIDEND to Shareholders of Taels 49.5.0 per Share for the fiscal year ending the 30th September, 1877, and a further DIVIDEND of Taels 10.5.0 per Share, being Interest on Shareholders' Capital at the Rate of 12 per Cent. per Annum, for the quarter ending December, 1877.

The above DIVIDENDS (Taels 60 per Share) will be payable on the 15th instant at the Office of the Secretaries, to Shareholders of Record on the 10th instant.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Association will be CLOSED from the 10th to the 15th instant inclusive.

Persons collecting Dividends for absent Shareholders are requested to exhibit their Powers of Attorney for registry at this Office.

By Order of the Directors,
RUSSELL & Co.,
172] Secretaries.

DENTAL NOTICE.

Dr. W. C. EASTLACK will Commence Practice in Hongkong on the 20th instant.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1878. [174

DENTAL NOTICE.

Dr. ROGERS begs to intimate that he has RETURNED, and is now Ready to Receive Patients.

No. 7, ARBUTHNOT ROAD.
Hongkong, 23rd November, 1877. [19

ORIENTAL HOTEL,
Wellington Street, Hongkong.
STOCKHAUSEN and ROSE,
Proprietors.

Tiffin at One. Dinner at Seven.
Wines, Spirits, &c., of the Best Quality only.
English, French, and German Spoken.

BILLIARD ROOMS—BOWLING ALLEYS.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

TENDERS are invited for a LEASE of the HONGKONG HOTEL, the present Five-yearly Lease expiring on the 31st August, 1878. SEALED TENDERS to be sent in on or before the 31st March, 1878, to the Secretary of the Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited, who will supply any information required.

By Order of the Directors,
LOUIS HAUSCHILD,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 15th September, 1877. [1421

A CHEE AND COMPANY,
31, QUEEN'S ROAD,
The Cheapest House in Hongkong for every description of
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,
Ironmongery, Cutlery, Glassware, Plated Ware, Crockeryware, Carpets, Hearthrugs, Mirrors, Engravings, Paintings, Statuettes, &c.

A House of any Dimensions Completely Furnished at a Day's notice.

50, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG.

NOTICE.

Office of the SHANGHAI STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, in Liquidation.

A SECOND RETURN of CAPITAL, at the rate of Five Taels per Share, will be made to Shareholders of record on the 1st October, payable at the Office of the Liquidators on the 8th instant.

Warrants will be delivered by the Undersigned to Shareholders or their lawful representatives on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 2nd to the 8th instant inclusive.

By Order,
RUSSELL & Co.,
Liquidators.
Shanghai, 2nd October, 1877. [44

INTIMATIONS.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS IN AID OF LOCAL CHARITIES.

"STILL WATERS RUN DEEP"
will be presented at the
THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL,
on
THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING,
the 31st instant, commencing at Nine o'clock.

Tickets may be obtained from any of the Committee on and after Thursday, January 24th.

Tickets, TWO DOLLARS each.

Committee:
Commander Sir William Wiseman, R.N.
Captain Moore Lane, 28th Regiment.
John M. Forbes, Jun.
Atwell Coxon.
Chas. C. Cohen.

EDWARD TOBIN,
Honorary Treasurer.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1878. [203

THE "MERRY MAKERS"
ARE
COMING!!!

FOR AMOY, TAMSUI, AND TAIWANFOO.

The Steamship
"HAILOONG,"
Captain Abbott, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-DAY, the 31st instant, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [244

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI,
Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for Hankow and Ports on the Yangtsze.

The Company's Steamship
"TEUCER"
will be despatched on or about the 5th February.

For Freight or Passage apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [246

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON, via SUEZ CANAL.

The Company's Steamship
"STENTOR"
will be despatched on or about the 15th February.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [112

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON).

The A1 British Ship
"CITY OF HALIFAX,"
Evans, Master, will load for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [245

FOR CHARTER.

The Steam Launch "EVENING STAR" having Good Accommodation on board for Pic-nic and Shooting Parties; Towing Vessels, &c., at Moderate Charge.

Apply to M. BUXSOO; or,
HONGKONG HOTEL.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1878. [1m114

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

TO CONSIGNEES OF OPTIONAL CARGO EX O. S. S. CO.'S Str. "NESTOR," FROM LIVERPOOL.

Shipping Orders must be obtained from the Undersigned not later than the 3rd Feb. for shipment per Steamer "TEUCER."

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1878. [246

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Consignees per Company's Steamer "NESTOR" are hereby notified that the Cargo is being discharged into Craft, or landed at the Godowns of the Undersigned; in both cases it will lie at Consignees' risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Craft or Godown on and after the 30th January, 1878.

Goods undelivered after the 4th February, 1878, will be subject to Rent.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [193

FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

The Steamship
"GLENORCHY"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are informed that their Goods will be landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Boats or Wharf delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded to Shanghai and Japan unless notice be given before Noon TO-DAY.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 5th February will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents Steamship "Glenorchy."
Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [1w242

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM LONDON, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

The Steamship
"CAIRNSMUIR,"
Captain Spowart, having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk and stored in Messrs. Norton & Co.'s Godowns, whence and/or from the Boats or Wharf delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded to Yokohama unless notice to the contrary is given before 2 p.m. TO-DAY.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 3rd February will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [1w243

STEAMSHIP "YANGTSE."
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

Consignees of Cargo per Steamship "GANGE" from London, in connection with the above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk at the Company's Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before TO-DAY, the 28th instant, at 10 a.m., requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after SATURDAY, the 2nd February, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

H. du POUEY,
Agent.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1878.

BARK "JOHN POTTS," FROM NEW YORK.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for Countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, 24th January, 1878. [1w214

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, having become LESSEE of the "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" and the BUSINESS connected therewith, will conduct the same on his own account from this date.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX.

Daily Press Office,
Hongkong, 1st January, 1878.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO.,
FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS,
By Appointment to His Excellency the Governor and his Royal Highness the
DUKE OF EDINBURGH,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
PERFUMERS,
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRYMEN,
And
AERATED WATER MAKERS,

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. WATSON and Co., or
HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [17

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

BIRTHS.

At Westbourne Villas, on the 23rd instant, the wife of Captain JOHN MACKIRDY, of a Son.

At 13, Seymour Terrace, Hongkong, on the 26th instant, the wife of GEORGE L. TOMLIN, of a Son.

At Greenmount, on the 27th January, 1878, Mrs. JOHN FAIRBAIRN, of a Son.

DEATHS.

At Demerara, British Guiana, on the 3rd November, 1877, THOMAS PITCAIRN FAIRBAIRN, lately of Shanghai, of fever.

At Hongkong, on the 17th inst., JAMES BRANDER, of the Chartered Mercantile Bank.

At Shanghai, on the 17th January, CHARLES WYCLIFFE GOODWIN, Esq., Acting Judge of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court of China and Japan.

At Macao, on the 25th January, ANNA ANTONIA, aged 80 years, mother of A. G. Romano, Esq., Honorary Consul for Portugal in Hongkong.

At Shanghai, on the 29th instant, of heart disease, ARTHUR WILLIS SAYLE, oldest son of Robert Sayle, Trumpington, Cambs.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 31st, 1878.

THE rulers of China and Japan have exchanged greetings on previous occasions, but never under the conditions marking the presentation of a letter the other day from the occupant of the Dragon Throne to his brother of the Land of the Rising Sun. China has only just established her first permanent Embassy at Tokio and Consulate at Yokohama. There has been much talk about it, but, as usual in Peking, the project was delayed from time to time. It has at length been carried out, and China is now represented at the Court of the MIKADO. The letter of the Emperor of CHINA to the MIKADO is brief but to the purpose. It sets forth that the Ambassadors are sent "in order to prove the friendship which exists between the two countries," and proceeds:—"We know our Ambassadors to be men of sound views and experience, and that they will faithfully perform the duties entrusted to them, so that we hope nothing will occur to disturb our mutual confidence and that both countries may enjoy eternal peace." No doubt His Imperial Majesty MUTSU-HITO will echo this wish; he and his Government have had enough of war. The various insurrections have been a strain upon the national finances, and have retarded the development of the country. Fortunately the threatened war with China over the Formosan affair was averted, and it is to be hoped that the nations will long remain in amity together. There are, happily, now few likely causes of disagreement between them. The Chinese have no wish to be aggressive towards their eastern neighbours, and the Japanese, whatever schemes of ambition they may once have cherished in connection with Formosa, have apparently long since surrendered all thought of attempting the subjugation of that island. To do the rulers of Peking justice, they have, since the Formosan disagreement, done their best to avoid all causes of quarrel with Japan. During the dispute between Japan and Corea, when the latter appeared disposed to provoke and defy Japan, the Peking Government let the Coreans understand very plainly they need not look for support or assistance from China, and advised them to yield to the proposals of the Japanese Government. It was probably owing partly to this counsel, and partly to their own craven fears, that the Coreans submitted to the just demands of the Japanese Government for satisfaction for the outrage on the crew of a man-of-war's boat. There is one little matter—it can scarcely be called a dispute—still unsettled between the two countries. We refer to the protectorate of Loochoo. The Japanese claim this little island kingdom as portion of their Empire; the Chinese Government, without formally setting up any claim to it indirectly assert one, by demanding from the Loochoocans the continuance of the tribute heretofore paid to the EMPEROR. The Loochooans, afraid of offending either Government, and anxious to please both, have been placed between two fires. As with some individuals, when trying to serve two masters, they have only succeeded in offending both. But the two Powers have not thought fit to come to any rupture on the question, and it is very possible that some understanding has been arrived at between them on the subject. It would be no great concession on the part of the Chinese Government to formally surrender its claim upon Loochoo, more especially since it has already been accomplished practically by the tacit acknowledgment of the right of the Japanese to intervene for the protection of Loochooan mariners from the ferocity of the Formosan aborigines. This question may, perhaps, be more readily settled now that a Chinese Representative has been installed at Tokio. As the Peking Government is anxious that both countries may enjoy "eternal peace," it ought to assiduously seek the removal of all causes of misunderstanding, however trivial, between them. The establishment of a Chinese Legation in Tokio cannot fail to promote the *entente cordiale* between China and Japan, and all lovers of peace and progress must consequently regard it with satisfaction. What the Chinese in Japan think of the innovation we cannot say. They have hitherto got on very well with the Japanese, who have treated them equitably. The Chinese in Yokohama are, according to report, rather dubious about the advantage of having a Consul of their own nationality residing in that port, and fear he may prove too inquisitive with regard to the amount of their incomes. Nor, judging by the conduct of the Chinese mandarins in the Central Kingdom, is this fear unnatural. We trust, however, that the Chinese Consul at Yokohama may prove a signal and brilliant exception to the rule, and seek only to fulfil his legitimate duties without squeezing his countrymen. It is possible, too, that public opinion may have a wholesome effect upon his action, and restrain him from attempting any tyrannical interference with the Chinese merchants in Japan.

IN another column will be found a graphic account of the most terribly fatal conflagration of modern times. On the morning of the 6th instant a fire broke out at Tientsin among the matsheds in one of the relief yards where some four thousand refugees from the famine-stricken districts were collected. This yard was enclosed by a strong fence, and, as it was occupied by women and children exclusively, the gates were kept locked except at certain times, in order that the inmates might be protected from interference. A strong wind prevailed at the time of ignition, and the fire spread among the inflammable erections with such frightful rapidity that upwards of fourteen hundred persons were burned to death before the fence could be torn down by the frantic onlookers. Had the gates not been locked, most of the inmates of the yard would doubtless have escaped, but, as it was, they were caught like rats in a trap. The horrors of the disaster were increased by the fact that the victims were all women and children. Their male relatives, who were gathered in other yards, soon flocked to the scene, but were unable to render much assistance, the furious element did its work so quickly and effectually. This dreadful catastrophe shows the danger of collecting crowds of refugees into enclosed matsheds. The native authorities will, in future, we should imagine, be careful not to have these temporary cities of refuge enclosed. At all events, such precautions should be taken as would render a fire impossible.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Jago, 74th Highlanders, has been gazetted Colonel.

The Harbour Master's Office will be closed on Saturday next, which will be China New Year's Day.

The waste ground between the new Garden and Robinson-road is being cleared for the extension of the garden.

We hear that the revival of the volunteer movement in Hongkong has been spoken of in influential quarters lately.

In the Supreme Court yesterday the argument on the points of law reserved in the case of Wai Akwong v. Lee Sing and another was concluded, and their Lordships reserved judgment.

The British troopship *Tamar*, Captain C. J. Brownrigg, is, according to present arrangements, to leave here with the remaining portion of Her Majesty's 28th Regiment, for Singapore, on the 12th proximo.

A Manila paper, noticing Captain Thebaud's approaching departure for Europe, says he goes to bring out a new ship of larger dimensions than his present one, the *Esmeralda*, and that he will soon be on the line again.

Manila has been indulging in three days' festivities, the occasion being the commencement of new works for the supply of water to the town and also the time appointed for the celebration of the birthday of the King of Spain.

We acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of a copy of the "Japan Gazette Hong List and Directory" for 1878. This useful work has been considerably extended, and now, in addition to the usual directory of foreign residents in Japan, it contains a list of the members of the reigning family in Japan, a chronological list of the Emperors of Japan, a comparative table showing the export of silk from Japan to foreign countries, with the prices ruling; the Austro-Hungarian Treaty of Commerce with Japan, the Convention of Yedo, with tariff, &c., together with the Japanese Customs and Government Notifications, and other matter useful for reference to the merchant and business man. The additional matter swells out the book to nearly double its former dimensions and considerably enhances its value and utility.

An inquest was held yesterday afternoon at the Magistracy, before Mr. Russell, Coroner, and Messrs. J. H. Smith, J. P. da Costa, and J. J. Dorrinck, as a jury, on the body of Kwok Ayou, aged 22 years, a prisoner serving his time of imprisonment in the Victoria Gaol.—Dr. Ayres said that the deceased, Kwok Ayou, a prisoner, was admitted into the gaol hospital on the 3rd January, suffering from dysentery. Witness saw the deceased just before he died that morning at half-past six o'clock a.m. He died of dysentery.—Captain Dempster said he was Acting-Superintendent of Victoria Gaol. The deceased was a prisoner there. He was held under a criminal calendar warrant of the Supreme Court. He was convicted of larceny, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. His name was Kwok Ayou, aged 22 years. Witness produced the committal warrant.—A verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

SUPREME COURT.

January 30th.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE SNOWDEN.

ALLEGED THEFT OF SHIP'S STORES.

J. Edwards and J. Coombs, the steward and cook of the British ship *Broomhall*, were charged with stealing a ham and a quantity of tinned provisions, the property of E. Bate, master of the said ship, on the 22nd January; Edwards was charged on a second count with embezzling the stores, and Coombs and a bum-boatman named Yip Achui were charged with receiving them knowing them to have been stolen. Mr. Hayllar, Q.C., instructed by the Crown Solicitor, prosecuted for the Attorney-General. The prisoners were undefended. The jurors were Messrs. H. J. Clipperton, H. G. Jaines, W. J. Ramsey, J. B. Smith, J. Keating, J. S. Edgar, and K. Beston.

The sale of the goods was admitted. The vessel left England last with passengers for New Zealand, from whence she came to Hongkong. The defence was that the goods alleged to have been stolen or embezzled were goods served out to passengers but which were not used, and were therefore left in the steward's hands. The third prisoner said he bought them on the understanding that they were the *bona fide* property of the first and second.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty against the first and second prisoners and acquitted the third. Sentence was deferred.

DIARY OF A CRICKET TOUR TO AMOY.

The Committee of the Cricket Club succeeded after many disappointments in securing an Eleven to represent Hongkong in the annual tournament against the Coast Ports, and Sunday morning the 13th instant saw them safely on board the good ship *Douglas*. They had previously at a *petit soupé* taken a tender leave of their affectionate friends, who, knowing the prowess of the Coasters in the field and at the festive board, saw them depart with many misgivings, but the Eleven "stood up and were bold," and, over "faskins of right Glenlivat, assured the faint-hearted "It's all right; we're 'Bound to Win.'"

The log of the *Douglas* was uneventful during the voyage, the usual incidents, however, which befall land lubbers, when they go down to the sea in big or little ships, characterized the first day at sea, some of the LLs stopping down below altogether, while the more adventurous spirits admired the mighty deep from over the taffrail. A short stay at Swatow, and the 16th inst. saw them at Amoy, where they parted from Captain Pitman, to whom, one and all, are greatly indebted for his geniality and untiring efforts to make the passage a pleasant one.

The officials of the Amoy Cricket Club were as usual ready to receive their visitors, and the Band of Brothers quickly found themselves billetted amongst the hospitable mansions of Koolin-su, an invitation from the Consuls of Amoy to a ball to be given that evening being first placed in their hands. The ball was a most successful one, the presence of the officers of the United States ships *Tennessee* and *Ranger*, and H.B.M.'s ship *Magpie*, together with the handsome uniforms and orders of the Consuls themselves, lent, as the *Court Journal* says, "unusual brilliancy to the scene," and many were the candidates to "claim the hand in dance" of the fair dames of Amoy, our American cousins being most formidable rivals in this respect, as, from their form and style of going, it is, in racing parlance, odds on them for the Terpsichorean Stakes.

The races on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday saw the whole community "on pleasure bent," including some Chinese lords of high degree and a Tartar General accompanied by a body guard of the "ever victorious army," whose spears appeared to be undergoing that change into agricultural implements promised us in the future. The racing was excellent, and it is to be regretted your Special Commissioner with the eleven (although a diligent student of his *Sporting Times*), is not much of a turf reporter, and his tips would scarcely be as good as those of "the member for Tattersall's"; but if at Hongkong we see the Commodore on the gallant Jambaree coming with a wet sail and a flowing sheet after a punishing twenty-two mile race we will give him three ringing cheers for the sake of Amoy.

Friday afternoon saw the crowd on board the flagship to a dance given by the Admiral and officers; there we were received with true American hospitality and introduced to the celebrated Tennesseean Punch, of which seductive fluid some of the visitors considered they could "hold a churnful, easy."

After bidding our friends on board adieu we adjourned to the Club, where the first contest was to take place, and the champion cuists to decide the momentous question of first blood. Williamson and Saunders represented Hongkong, while Harkness and Bruce did battle for Amoy. The match, which resulted in a somewhat easy win for Hongkong by 47 points, calls for little comment, as there was no brilliant display on either side; our first string had been to the dance but had not proved superior to the attractions of some of his partners of the ball, the charms of the *trois temps*, and the p——; but no, we retract that last remark, as we have it on the very best authority that, although long "he lingered round the very spot" where they served it out, they say he never touched a drop, but of this we have our doubts. The second string would not be led into temptation, but, like a prudent man, lay back in the long grass on shore, from whence he emerged when called upon and carried off the honours of the match.

About this time a most important member of the team, viz., the only man who could long-stop the "Young 'un," received a telegram recalling him at once to Hongkong, so it was decided to play the cricket match on Saturday and Monday. This telegram was a source of great speculation, and, combined with the threatening aspect of affairs at home, caused violent fluctuations in the markets on the coast, the betting being divided as to whether he was required to fill one of the vacancies in the Cabinet or supersede Baker Pasha; so on Saturday the cricket match was commenced. The Hongkong captain winning the toss, decided on putting in the Amoyites. It was soon apparent that they were somewhat out of practice, and in this Battle of the Roses the "Yorker" had rather the best of it. Head showed his old freedom, scored the large majority of the runs, and eventually carried out his bat, the total of the innings being 60. The Hongkong scoring was more evenly divided and exceeded that total by 44. Dudley Travers obtaining the ledger with a steady and well played innings, while Pike battered and damaged the roof and verandah of a detached villa adjoining the cricket ground. The second innings of Amoy exceeded their first effort by 2 runs, Head being, fortunately for us, early got rid of by a clinker from A. K. Travers. Prothero and St. Croix were the principal scorers, but the total of the two innings left Hongkong only 19 to get to win; they accomplished this with the loss of one wicket, thus winning the match by nine wickets.

On the Sunday intervening, the members of the Ee-kee, who (with indeed everyone else) throughout, had been most unremitting in their exertions to entertain the team, organized a riding picnic along the sands, with a steam-launch to carry those who were doubtful about their equestrian abilities. The scene from the launch was a lively one as the cavalry started, a number of the racing ponies whose mission was accomplished, were brought forth, and although they did not tie the Mazeppas on the ramping, stamping steeds, a good number of the riders wished they were securely attached while their ponies urged on their wild career amongst the stakes. One well known member of the team met an old pony friend of his of former years, but during the ride the friends parted company, the rider asserting it was a voluntary action on his part, but we have not heard what the pony said. Lunch in a joss-house, with running hop, step, and jump afterwards, in which the "Young un" carried off the palm, and home again finished a capital day.

On Tuesday the racquet match was played, and Hongkong sustained their only defeat, Head and MacIver beading Hynes and Williamson, the latter playing for Saunders, who disabled his arm during the cricket match. Hongkong went off with a strong lead, but, Head and MacIver settling down, pulled it off after a good match.

Amoy	8	17	15
Hongkong	15	16	10

On Tuesday evening the bowling match took place, and A. K. Travers, Hughes, Gray, and Williamson defeated Henderson, Masson, Campbell, and Watson. This was a most unlooked for success, as we had booked the bowling a certainty for Amoy; however the Hongkong men played up and landed the event by 197 pins. "It was a famous victory."

Lawn tennis, the next and final event, was to have come off on Wednesday, but the representatives of Amoy were absent at the call of time; although this was to be regretted, it gave the southerners an opportunity of joining in a few games with the ladies of Amoy, and, from the excellent form displayed by them, the game must have reached a high state of perfection at that port.

We have now chronicled the principal events of the week, from which it will be seen that Amoy is the place "to spend a happy day"; but it is in vain you bid me discourse of the *noctes ambrosianæ*; you should have sent as many correspondents as an enterprising daily does to the seat of war to have a faithful record of the "umbrellas" of Ee-kee and the hospitality of other Hongs, where, with "David, King of Palestine" and "The Farmer's Boy," the eleven passed many a jovial night. As for your special commissioner, he was under the protection of the Stars and Stripes, and had a real good time, except once when even the Great American Eagle was unable to protect his callow brood from the the Mohawks, who came down, or rather upstairs, "like a wolf on the fold" and extracted your S.C. from what he fondly believed was a place of perfect safety, and bore him off to consume more Bourbon to the wild but melodious strains of "We'll sound the jubilee." The Bird of Freedom was not alone disturbed that night, for rumour hath it, that the British Lion had little terrors for these marauders, who dared to beard even him in his den.

All things must end in this world, and Thursday saw us mustered on the deck of the *Taiwan* to bid adieu to Amoy and our kind entertainers. We parted with mutual good wishes, and we hope to have the pleasure of meeting them at Hongkong, to return as best we can the many obligations they have placed us under.

On Friday we stopped a day at Swatow and encountered the Swatow eleven, but notwithstanding the presence of the redoubtable "George" they suffered defeat in one innings. On this occasion we enlisted under our colours our gallant captain, and a well known American gentleman, also more at home upon the deck than at the wicket; however, their fielding was quite up to the mark (the way the captain took a stone wall at square leg in his stride will long be remembered), and made up for any want of success with the bat, or, as one of them expressed it, "I'm all right in the field, but not up to much with the paddle."

Saturday saw us once more at Hongkong, where we parted with many regrets from Capt. Young, with whom we had a delightful passage, the *Taiwan* being the best behaved and steadiest of barkies, and the captain the best of good fellows.

Before closing this record of so pleasant a journey, the eleven take the opportunity of expressing their warmest thanks to Messrs. Douglas Lapraik and Co. for their consideration and kindness in affording them the opportunity of visiting the Coast Ports.

The following are the scores of the cricket matches:—

AMOY.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. S. Campbell, b Hynes	5	b Hynes	4
Mr. W. F. Spinney, b Hynes	0	c Pike, b Hynes	4
Mr. R. C. Prothero, R.N., run out	3	c Gray, b Hynes	15
Mr. F. S. Head, not out	37	b A. K. Travers	4
Mr. K. MacIver, b A. K. Travers	0	c Rickard, b D. Travers	9
Mr. W. de St. Croix, c Graham, b Hynes	2	b D. C. Travers	11
Mr. J. R. Bridgman, b A. K. Travers	1	b Hynes	4
Mr. S. G. Bird, b Hynes	0	c Pike, b Hynes	1
Mr. W. S. Young, b Hynes	3	b Hynes	0
Mr. H. A. Watson, b D. C. Travers	4	not out	8
Mr. J. W. Graham, b Hynes	0	b D. C. Travers	1
b 4, l b 1, w 2	7	b 2, l b 4, w 3	9
	60		62

HONGKONG.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. W. Hynes, c MacIver, b. St. Croix	17	l b w, b MacIver	5
Mr. D. C. Travers, c Graham, b. MacIver	21	not out	2
Mr. M. Saunders, R.A., b St. Croix	4	not out	3
Mr. G. V. Rashleigh, R.N., c MacIver, b St. Croix	0		
Mr. A. K. Travers, c Bird, b MacIver	3		
Mr. F. O. Pike, R.N., b MacIver	19		
Mr. S. Hughes, c Bird, b Watson	1		
Mr. J. A. L. Coker, R.A., c Bird, b MacIver	10		
Mr. R. M. Gray, c Young, b Graham	11		
Mr. G. P. Rickard, not out	1		
Mr. T. G. Williamson, b MacIver	0		
b 1, l b 1, w 9, n b 1	12	b 3, l b 1, w 1	5
	104		10

SWATOW.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. R. H. Hill, c D. C. Travers, b Saunders	0	b Hynes	0
Mr. J. R. Bridgman, c D. C. Travers, b Saunders	0	not out	14
Mr. G. H. Wollatt, b Hynes	7	b Hynes	18
Mr. F. H. King, run out	0	st Travers, b Saunders	16
Mr. W. Laidlaw, run out	0	b Hynes	5
Mr. T. W. Richardson, thrown, A. K. Travers	1	b Saunders	2
Mr. Adamson, b Saunders	0	l b w, b Hynes	20
Mr. Lord, run out	1	b Hynes	0
Mr. Birch, not out	0	b Saunders	0
Mr. Hough, b Hynes	0	st Travers, b Saunders	0
Mr. Touzalin, run out	0	b Saunders	0
b 9	9	b 10	10
	18		93

HONGKONG.

Mr. W. Hynes, b Bridgman	11
Mr. D. C. Travers, b Bridgman	10
Mr. M. Saunders, R.A., run out	74
Captain Young, ("Taiwan"), b Bridgman	0
Mr. F. F. Elwell, c Wollatt, b Laidlaw	0
Mr. Urquart, c Wollatt, b Laidlaw	3
Mr. A. K. Travers, c Wollatt, b Laidlaw	13
Mr. S. Hughes, b Bridgman	12
Mr. G. P. Rickard, not out	6
Mr. J. A. L. Coker, R.A., b Hill	1
b 4, l b 2	6
	136

POLICE COURT.

30th January.

BEFORE JAMES RUSSELL, ESQ.

DRUNKENNESS.

Edward Conrad, described as a seaman, unemployed, was charged with being drunk.

P.C. 624 said that about noon yesterday he found the prisoner drunk and disorderly. He was running after people in the street. Witness was obliged to obtain the assistance of another constable to put him into a chair and take him to the station.

Sergeant Bremner said that after the prisoner was locked up in the cell he became very noisy. He took off the greater part of his clothing, tore it up, and attached it to the cell door. He appeared as though he wanted to hang himself. He put the shirt round his neck, having converted it into a rope first by tearing it up and tying the pieces together.

The prisoner said that he had nothing to say whatever.

Fined $5; in default, twenty-one days' imprisonment.

AN ALLEGED ASSAULT.

Thomas Ide Bowler was summoned for beating and assaulting Lee Akiu.

The complainant said he was the master of the Tai Lee carpenter's shop, and had been doing some work for the defendant, for which he owed $1. Yesterday morning at eight o'clock he went to the defendant's house, and saw his wife, who opened the door. She called the dog and witness went into the cook-room. Defendant then called his dogs and tried to make them bite witness, but they would not do so. Witness then asked defendant for the dollar. Defendant said nothing but "What brought you here," and gave him several blows, one on his left eye. Witness ran away, and came to the office for a summons. His left eye was black (shown).

Defendant—Did you go in by the front or the back of the house?

Complainant said he went in by the front door.

Defendant—Where were you when you were struck?

Complainant said he was at the cook-room.

Mr. Bedell Lee Yuen, interpreter at the Police Court, said the complainant came to the court yesterday and made an application for a summons. Witness then noticed a mark upon the complainant's left eye. The mark looked like as though from a blow.

Defendant said he reading a newspaper yesterday when he saw a Chinaman walking through his bedroom towards the cook-house. He rushed out and asked him who let him in and what he wanted. The man would not go, so he pushed him out and closed the door. He did not strike him with his fist. He remembered complainant doing some work for which he was paid $1.50 more than the sum agreed upon. The complainant did not ask him for a dollar, as he did not give him time to ask.

Chan Achu, cook to the defendant, corroborated the evidence given by the defendant.

His Worship dismissed the case.

LARCENY.

Tung Akiu, a married woman, was charged by Mr. Mackay, Manager of Temperance Hall, with stealing some bread, potatoes, and beef from the Hall premises.

Fined $2; in default, ten days' imprisonment.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT.

Tsoi Achin, a chair coolie, was charged by Mr. Terry, of No. 55, Wyndham-street, with creating a disturbance by kicking at his door.

Fined $1; in default, three days' imprisonment.

ANOTHER SLEEPY WATCHMAN.

Sheik Ahmed, watchman at the Hong Ham Docks, was charged by P.C. Sommerville with being asleep whilst on duty at ten o'clock last night.

Fined $2, in default ten days' imprisonment.

BEFORE CHARLES MAY, ESQ.

RETURNING FROM DEPORTATION.

Wong Akwai was charged with returning from deportation.

James Mulgraves said the prisoner had been in gaol four times under conviction the first time was the 16th January, 1874, when he was sentenced to one month's hard labour and to find security for three months; the second was on the 22nd August, 1874, when he was sentenced to four months' hard labour for larceny; the third on the 30th December, 1874, when he was sentenced to six months' hard labour for larceny from the person, and the fourth was on the 5th April 1876, when he was sentenced to six months hard labour, and to find security in two householders of $25 each to be forthcoming to answer any charge within three months. He did not find security, and was deported for five years under the provisions of Ordinance No. 9, of 1857. The prisoner was discharged from gaol on the 12th [illegible] 1878.

Prisoner was committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 30th December relates a ceremony which reminds one of "beating the bounds" of an English parish. The Governor-General of Manchuria reports the conclusion of the "autumn patrol of the frontier" between China and Corea, by a Chinese official and an officer appointed for the purpose by the King of Corea.

FEARFUL FIRE AT TIENTSIN.

1,400 LIVES LOST.

TIENTSIN, 10th January.

On Sunday, January 6th, this city was the scene of a calamity of a magnitude rare, even among the great disasters which are constantly overtaking China. The number of refugees who have been collecting at this point during the winter, has been augmenting by daily additions up to the present time, when the aggregate is variously estimated at anywhere from fifty thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand—the latter number being probably nearer the truth than the former. Owing to the multitudes who flocked to Tientsin, the resolution of the officials, of which we heard at the beginning of the season, to erect no matsheds, on account of the danger of fire, was not carried out. A few weeks since, an additional soup dispensary was opened on a piece of vacant ground known as the Flower Garden of the K'ang family, situated outside the city and a few yards east of the south-east corner of the city wall. For many generations this little spot has by no means been a flower garden, but has sometimes served as a stock-yard, and sometimes been vacant. Its shape is that of a rectangle about a hundred feet in length by about eighty in breadth, its longest diameter being east and west. It is bounded on the north by the city ditch, on the east by a manure-yard, and by an ice-pit roofed in and always covered with matting; on the south by dwelling-houses, and on the west by a dwelling-house of mud, and a temple called the Ta Pei Sau. Adjacent to this temple ran an alley crossing a small bridge over the city moat. When this relief-depôt was established, the whole premises were surrounded with a strong fence of reeds and millet stalks, plastered with mud. As the place was to be occupied only by women and children, the greatest care was taken, that all communication between the inside and outside be prevented. The alley on the west side was fenced up at its north end, and the only gate of the soup-yard was at the south end of the same alley—a gate about six feet wide. The alley is about thirty feet wide, and the passage leading to the area within, very short. Within the enclosure there were four rows of matsheds, running east and west, together with others in irregular positions, the whole divided, after the manner of soup-yards, into compartments twelve or fifteen feet square, each division being made to hold from thirty to fifty persons, many of them very small children—the booths or compartments are supposed to have been about sixty in number, and the total registered inmates were about 2,800. It would perhaps be difficult to find a place outside the boundaries of China, where so many human beings could be lodged in a space so small.

In charge of this dispensary of food, were two deputies (wei-yuans) who were supposed to be on hand personally at all times, on the theory that a relief-yard is but a modified camp. Eight large boilers stood near the entrance, and ten large water tanks were close at hand. The gruel served out, at the rate of two large bowls a day to each person, was composed of five parts coarse millet, three parts small millet, and two parts with rice. The inmates were from various quarters, and not a few from Tientsin and its vicinity. The husbands were dispersed in all directions—some in relief-yards for males, and others begging a living as they might. At certain hours in the day, the women were allowed to leave the yard, and go out to make purchases for themselves, with whatever funds they may have saved or begged. At all other times the front gate was locked, but one of the gate-keepers was supposed to be constantly on duty. Such was the scene of the horrible tragedy of the 6th January.

On the morning of that day, the thermometer was within 8 deg. or 10 deg. of zero, Fahrenheit. A wind cold and bleak, even for this region of cold and bleak winds, was blowing with savage fury from the north. It was such a wind as blew on that memorable day, when twenty-five hundred acres of Chicago were reduced to a black desert—perhaps a trifle less strong, but many degrees colder.

About ten o'clock on this bitter morning an alarm was given, that a fire had broken out in this relief-yard, roofed with inflammable mats, and crowded with human beings. How the fire originated will probably never be known. It must, however, have been in the northern portion. Once ignited, the fire spread with the same celerity and destructiveness as a bursting shell. In an instant, the whole area was in flames. To understand the unexampled swiftness, and appalling completeness, of the awful result, it must be known that extraordinary facilities had been afforded for the spread of a fire once kindled; within every compartment, the flooring consisted of at least a foot of straw, to enable the occupants to resist the cold, treasuring their animal heat by a contact as close as that of sardines in a box. Every effort is made to prevent the use of fire in a mat-shed relief-yard; but once ignited no fire could possibly be put out—it would be like putting out a fire in a keg of gunpowder.

The history of the awful moments which succeeded to the alarm of fire, can never be told. It will be for ever graven on the memory of those who witnessed the scene. Hundreds poured forth to escape where they might, the flames lapping their garments and singeing their hair. Probably the chief torrent set toward the broad alley, at the end of which was the gate. It was locked. Crowds of people began to gather on all sides of the yard, and tear down the strong fence. By means of this friendly help, many hundreds poured out in living cataracts on the east side, and at the south-west corner. Those who escaped must have come mostly from the southern of the four rows of sheds. The moment that communication was established between the inside and the outside, a considerable number of outsiders leaped into that part of the enclosure forming the alley, to attempt to rescue those who were still struggling to escape. The scene within was awful. The long sheds, had already melted into smoke and ashes, and only the poles were still burning—yet not the poles alone, for beneath, stretched long lines of something, only indistinctly seen, and which, between the gusts of flame and smoke, could be recognized as the heads, arms and bodies, of human beings, all huddled within the limits of the former compartments, and just as they were caught by the fiery sirocco. Not one in twenty had had time to move a yard, before they were met by flames and suffocated where they chanced to be. As we see in representations of the victims of the burial of Herculaneum and Pompeii, men in every attitude in which the shower of ashes found them, so here the outstretched arms, the extended leg showed in what stage of flight each had been overtaken.

As the crowds began to collect, the scene became a Pandemonium. Gradually, and one by one, the fire engines made their laborious way through the narrow and crowded lanes. They were one hour too late. A London fire brigade even, would have been as useless as the trilobites. Imagine an engine using water brought from a point a quarter of a mile distant, arriving on the scene of action to find its hose stiff with the ice of some previous occasion; the head-fireman snatching a bunch of reeds and lighting it at the fire in which hundreds of human bodies are already roasting, in order when lighted, to hold it to the hose and thaw it, in the attempt to play a tiny stream on the smouldering remains of the hapless victims! Imagine ten men bringing water from a distance, and fifty men with gongs and flags, each inspiriting a legion of purely imaginary followers, to rush forward and do—no one had the least idea what. Not that there was lacking bravery; some rushed into the midst of the flames, and bore off those who were unable to escape, but such cases were very few. The greater part were utterly wild with conflicting emotions, and could have done nothing, had they known what to do. And this was exactly what no one did know. Indeed it was not easy to see or say what could be done. In front of the locked gate a large number of poor wretches were caught and imprisoned by the flames. Their wadded or skin garments caught fire, and could neither be taken off nor extinguished—scores of poor women were reduced to a condition too horrible to be described—absolutely roasted on one side, and utterly helpless to escape. The number of those badly burned, is supposed to be more than a hundred. They were distributed in various poor buildings in the vicinity, and have doubtless been plastered with the sticky ointment, the single Chinese remedy for an external lesion. Many of them cannot possibly recover, and must suffer inconceivable agonies during every moment of consciousness. The thought of the shocking treatment and neglect which such patients are certain to receive, greatly diminishes the natural satisfaction felt at their escape at all.

The greater part of those who were burned, must have perished instantly. Within five minutes of the time the fire broke out, it is probable that, those who failed to escape, were suffocated by the flames. Long after every scrap of mat and wood had been consumed, the bodies of victims continued to burn and smoulder. The corpses were most of them reduced literally to cinders, utterly beyond recognition. Many of the survivors on the day of the fire, and the three following days, while the bodies were being taken out, wandered about, uttering the most piteous lamentations, striving to discover their children; husbands came, to institute a hopeless quest for their wives. Nothing was left upon the ground but hundreds of horribly mutilated corpses, fragments of half burned clothes, and broken pottery.

As soon as the appalling calamity became known, the magistrates took prompt steps to deal with the dead. Unfortunately less interest seemed to be excited by the survivors, who were allowed for days to roam about like lost sheep, in flocks of hundreds, with no definite provision for their wants. The various officials, and sundry rich gentlemen, ordered coffins of nearly every shop in the city, many of them furnishing two hundred a piece. The streets were blockaded with men sawing pine logs to be made into coffins, but many of them were constructed of whatever waste material chanced to come to hand. The price of the average coffin was 1,400 cash, or very nearly a tael ($1.40) each. During the three days occupied in coffining the corpses, crowds constantly surrounded the spot, viewing the melancholy spectacle. Many of the bodies could not be enclosed in coffins at all, but were simply laid in, the projecting arms and legs protected by mat wrappings passed around the coffins, and secured by ropes. This unusual care for the dead—the pauper dead that is to say—shows the better side of the Chinese character. It was this sentiment, too, that prompted the erection of a mat-booth, and the offer of the gratuitous services of a company of Taoist priests from one of the principal temples of Tientsin, to say prayers for the souls of the dead, on the very site of their destruction. It is this sentiment, too, if report be true, which has led the District Magistrate to wear mourning.

At first it was generally supposed that the number who escaped was but trifling. Now that the bodies have all been put into coffins, it is definitely ascertained, that the number who perished, is somewhat more than fourteen hundred—and not quite fifteen hundred. On this morsel of ground scarcely large enough for a small Chinese courtyard, entirely open on two sides, so far as houses are concerned, and with a broad passage on a third, fifteen hundred people are roasted in much less than fifteen minutes. The gatekeeper is under arrest and examination. All accounts agree that the gate was never opened at all. The explanation of the magnitude of the catastrophe is to be found in three items—the furious wind prevailing at the time of the fire, the thick layer of the straw on the ground in the sheds, and the entire absence of any openings in the strong fence.

The vast quantities of grain deposited at Taku, at the close of navigation, is but just brought up. Hundreds of carts have been employed in this service for weeks. Silver is very scarce, and exchange on Shanghai has been up to ten per cent—double the usual price. Yet owing to the scarcity of brass cash, the price of silver reckoned in cash rises very little. Everything combines to make the winter one of great suffering for the countless poor. It is said that at one of the relief-yards about twenty a day die of cold, and there are more than a dozen of these places of relief. The greatest suffering is yet to come.—*Shanghai Courier* Correspondent.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

OPIUM.

WEDNESDAY, 30th January.

Of Patna sales given of to-day at $581½ to $590, and of Benares at $553½ to $560; the higher rates being for select chests. Settlements reported of inferior Malwa at $700 with allowance of twenty-four taels. The stock of Patna given at 1,800 chests, of Benares 800 chests, and of Malwa 750 chests.

EXPORT CARGO.

Per steamship *Mirzapore*, for London, &c.:—For London 763 bales Silk, 29 bales Waste Silk, 15 cases Silk Piece Goods, 6,988 boxes, 2,881 half-chests, 35 packages Tea, and 252 packages Sundries. For Continent 168 bales Silk, 50 bales Cocoons, 15 bales Punjum Silk, and 50 packages Sundries. For Boston 352 boxes and 1,032 half-chests Tea.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—
Bank Bills, on demand 3/10¼
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .... 3/10½ to 3/10⅝
Bank Bills, at 6 months' sight .... 3/11 to 3/11⅛
Credits, at 6 months' sight .... 3/11⅛ to 3/11¼
Documentary Bills, at 6 months' sight 3/11¼
ON BOMBAY.—Bank, sight 224
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank, sight 224
ON SHANGHAI.—
Bank, sight .... 71 nominal
Private, 30 days' sight .... 72 nominal

SHARES.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—59 per cent. premium.
Union Insurance Society of Canton—$1,300 per share.
China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—$3,300 per share.
Yangtsze Insurance Association—Tls. 615 per share.
Chinese Insurance Company—$260 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$700 per share.
China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$190 per share.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—2 per cent. discount.
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.'s Shares—$12 per share discount.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Company—Tls. 26 per share.
Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—$75 per share.
Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—$55 per share.
Chinese Imperial Loan—£104 10s. Ex. ds. 1½d.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1877—£103.

CHARTERS EFFECTED.

The following Settlements are taken from Messrs. HEINEMANN & Co.'s Freight Circular:—

British bark ANTIPODES, 592 tons, hence to Hamburg, private terms.

Danish bark ASSENS, 256 tons, hence to Dunkirk, £1 15s. per ton of 50 feet.

French bark SOPHIE D., 758 tons, Iloilo to Channel for orders to a port in the United Kingdom, or to New York or Boston, private terms.

American bark ADA WISWELL, 558 tons, Saigon to Callao, £1,500 in full.

American bark ALDEN BESSE, 842 tons, hence to Portland, private terms.

American bark HERBERT BLACK, 573 tons, hence to Portland, private terms.

British bark CITY OF HALIFAX, 853 tons, hence to Portland, private terms.

German bark HUMBOLDT, 330 tons, Shanghai to Tientsin and back to Swatow *via* Newchwang, 60 cents per picul, 35 lay days.

German bark HELENE, 372 tons, hence to Chefoo and back, 24 cents per picul, 25 lay days.

German bark FERDINAND, 416 tons, Chefoo to Swatow, 19 cents per picul; or to Amoy for orders, 21 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

German bark CERES, 420 tons, Chefoo to Swatow, 19 cents per picul; if to Amoy for orders, 21 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

French bark MARIE LOUISE, 425 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong (Timber), $2,500 in full, 35 lay days.

German bark ROSA BOTTCHER, 398 tons, Subig (Manila) to Hongkong (Timber), 19½ cents per foot.

French bark MARIE CHARLOTTE, 390 tons, Mantong to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul, 30 lay days.

British bark PHANTON, 376 tons, Wanglam (Bangkok) to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul, 30 lay days.

British steamer CHARLTON, 786 tons, Haiphong to Hongkong, private terms.

British steamer RAJANATTIANUHAE, 933 tons, hence to Haiphong and back, $4,000 in full, 9 lay days.

German steamer CASSANDRA, 937 tons, hence to Saigon, $1,000 in full; and Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul, 10 lay days.

British steamer GLENFALLOCH, 1,389 tons, Saigon to Hongkong (three trips), 18 cents per picul.

British steamer CHARLOTTE ANDREWS, 353 tons, hence to Touron and back, $1,450 in full.

British steamer BERTHA, 1,421 tons, hence to Sydney and Melbourne and back, monthly charter three months, private terms.

NEWS FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

GOVERNOR HENNESSY ON EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

The Central School continues to show increasingly good results. The limited accommodation forbids any large augmentation in the number of pupils, and many have to be refused admission, but an improvement is manifest in the average attendance of the scholars and in their proficiency; with this exception, little progress is to be noted or could be expected. For years this valuable institution has required a larger and more suitable building, and it is to be hoped it will not be kept waiting much longer by the red tapeism of the Colonial Office. It is to be hoped, too, that some sort of a play-ground may be secured with the new premises, for it would prove a useful agent in increasing the proficiency of the boys in speaking English, as they would thus be more thrown together. We presume that there are more than fifty boys who understand something of English, though they may not speak the language, and if they mixed more together they would be likely to pick it up with greater rapidity. At all events, the play-ground is very desirable as a healthy appanage of the new schoolhouse, which is yet in prospective.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR took the opportunity in his speech yesterday, to indicate—we can scarcely say enunciate—a policy on the education question. He said that his policy was "to promote education." This is a very general statement, to which no possible objection can be taken except that it is so broad. Few people doubted Mr. HENNESSY's desire to promote education; they were merely dubious as to what kind of education he desired to promote. As His Excellency proceeded, however, he shadowed forth his policy a little plainer. He declared himself a warm friend to the Central School, and expressed a strong desire to enlarge the sphere of its operations and render it yet more competent to grapple with the work for which it was established. He paid a well deserved tribute to the ability and zeal of its presiding genius, and warmly praised the other masters, not forgetting the late Mr. GAIR, whose premature decease he alluded to in feeling terms. His Excellency rightly considers that the post of Inspector-General of Schools should be separated from that of the Head-Master. This has long been our opinion, and it was expressed in these columns before the arrival of Mr. HENNESSY in the Colony. It is satisfactory to find there is now some chance of Mr. STEWART being relieved of a portion of his duties, and enabled to devote himself more to the very necessary work of supervision.

With regard to the GOVERNOR's scheme for the spread of education in the Colony, it is difficult to say much until we know something of its details. Yesterday, as we have said, he only shadowed it forth. He dwelt upon the connection between ignorance and crime, alluded to the statement that there are twelve thousand children in the Colony unblessed by education, and expressed a determination to wage war against this ignorance. In this undertaking every right minded individual must wish His Excellency all success. It would, however, be folly to overlook two important facts in connection with this estimate of the uneducated portion of the juvenile population. In the first place it should be remembered that about eight thousand of these twelve thousand ignoramuses are girls, while there is a large proportion who are too useful to their parents to be spared. Again, a certain number are taught to read and write after a fashion in small private schools not under Government supervision. Of course much may be done in gaining over the residuum, but without introducing a compulsory system it would be utterly impossible to secure to all the native children in the Colony the blessings of education. And we very much question whether the compulsory system would work well here. It is probable that it would be resented and looked upon with suspicion by the parents, who would promptly imagine that some ulterior motive lurked behind the avowed wish to benefit their offspring. Some of them, too, would object to the interference with their gains. The suggestion of Dr. EITEL that the education of female children should be included in the GOVERNOR's scheme for the promotion of education is an excellent one if it can be carried into effect, but it is to be feared that such a proposition would meet with considerable opposition among the Chinese. Like most Oriental peoples, the Chinese regard woman as an inferior creature, and deem it unnecessary to give their daughters much education. The better classes might be persuaded to send their girls to school, perhaps, but it will be difficult to induce the labouring class to do so. What His Excellency intends to propose in connection with the Reformatory system remains to be seen. We can say nothing on this head until we are in possession of particulars. Meantime it is satisfactory to the community generally to have the assurances contained in His Excellency's speech that the work of education shall be vigorously carried on in the future.—*January* 26.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON, & MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at the Company's Offices, Queen's-road, Hongkong, on the 25th inst. There were present Messrs. E. R. Belilios (Chairman), W. H. Forbes, W. Reiners, F. B. Johnson, G. Sharp, W. von Bobers, L. Hauschild, Dr. O'Brien, T. G. Linstead, M. B. Polishwalla, H. L. Noronha, A. Smith, J. F. Mardfeldt, and P. A. da Costa (Secretary.)

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, our report and accounts having been in your hands for the last few days, I suppose you will permit me to take them as read. Our steamers are in an efficient state, and will all shortly be in good working order. All repairs and contingencies will be fully met by the amount we are now carrying forward to new working account. The *Kiukiang* and the *Spark* have had extensive repairs done to them some twenty months ago, and the *Powan*, considering the object for which she was built, has acquitted herself very creditably indeed on both the Canton and Macao waters, and has justified the expense we incurred with regard to her some time ago. The *White Cloud* has entailed a moderate expense on the resources of the company and is now out of dock. The *Kinshan* is now in dock, but from the estimate of our superintending engineer we may rely upon the expense not exceeding $12,000. Considering the keen competition we have been compelled to contend with on both our lines, and keeping in view the extraordinary expenses we have been obliged to provide for, some of which appear in these accounts, you will doubtless look upon our operations as satisfactory. You are aware of the extraordinarily large expense we were put to in connection with a certain recent enactment in this Colony. However, I am glad to be able to inform you that the matter is under the consideration of the Governor. We can only hope that His Excellency, with his usual kindness, will deem it right to remit the fine, of course retaining a nominal sum for our unintentional breach of the Ordinance. We continue to enjoy the support of the community, and I hope will always continue to do so. I have no further remarks to make, but will be glad to answer any questions.

The following is the

REPORT.

The Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the usual half-yearly Statement of Accounts to the 31st December last.

The amount at credit of Profit and Loss Account, after paying running expenses, premia of insurance, salaries, repairs, and a fine of $4,020 imposed on the *Kinshan* for over-carrying passengers, is $38,013.16, from which the Directors recommend the distribution of a dividend for the half-year at the of 3 per cent on the paid up Capital, which will absorb $18,000, and the ap-

propriation of $2,500 as Directors' remuneration, leaving $17,518.16 to be carried forward to new Account. Considering that the state of affairs on the river has not improved, but that, on the contrary, rates of freight have been still lower than at the date of the last report, the Directors trust that the result of the half-year's working will be viewed as not unsatisfactory.

The circumstances attending the action of the Police Authorities against the *Kinshan* for carrying passengers in excess of the number allowed by the "River Steamers Ordinance" have become known through the public papers. The Directors have addressed a petition to His Excellency the Governor, praying for remission of the heavy fine inflicted on the Company, and a favourable reply is confidently expected.

The *White Cloud* has been remetalled and has had her machinery and boilers overhauled at a cost of about $9,000, of which the sum of $2,349.68 has been paid and included in the accounts now presented. The *Kinshan* is now laid up to be fitted with a new piston and to have her machinery and boilers overhauled. All the other steamers are in good order.

The Directors have applied for and obtained an allotment of 100 Bonds of the Chinese Imperial Loan of 1877, thus raising the Company's funds invested in Chinese Bonds to $93,401.44 as shown in the statement.

Mr. A. McIver and the Hon. W. Keswick are absent from the Board on leave. Mr. F. B. Johnson has accepted a seat at the Board at the invitation of the Directors, which act requires confirmation by the Shareholders.

The retiring Auditors, Messrs. H. Smith and L. Hauschild, offer themselves for re-election.

E. R. BELILIOS,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1878.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN moved that the report and accounts as submitted to the meeting be adopted.

Mr. LINSTEAD seconded.

Carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. FORBES, seconded by Dr. O'BRIEN, the election of Mr. Johnson to the board of directors was confirmed.

Mr. JOHNSON thanked the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. REINERS, seconded by Mr. SHARP, the retiring auditors, Messrs. H. Smith and L. Hauschild, were re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN said that was all the business, thanked the members for their attendance, and announced that the dividend will be payable on and after Monday, the 28th inst.

Shortly after the meeting a communication was received by the Secretary of the Company from the Colonial Secretary intimating that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to remit the fine of $4,020 imposed upon the steamer *Kinshan* not long since, with the exception of $100 which was retained.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in this Company was held at four o'clock p.m. on the 25th inst. at the Hotel. There were present:—Mr. E. R. Belilios (in the Chair), F. Grobien, W. Reiners, F. C. Dittmer, Pereira, M. B. Polishwalla, W. R. Landstein, J. F. Mardfeldt, H. Hoppius, H. Cohen, A. E. Vaucher, E. B. Jorey, J. H. Cox, G. Sharp, C. Ethé, and L. Hauschild (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, our report and accounts for the last half-year having been published, you have doubtless perused them and will allow me to take them as read. You will observe that we have followed the old routine of paying off a portion of our loan and declaring a small dividend to the shareholders. This course we intend to adopt until the amount now standing on the wrong side of our books shall have been liquidated.—(Applause.) Afterwards the directors then sitting at this board may think it right to make you a larger return on your investments. You have no doubt heard some alarming rumours circulating in the Colony concerning the state of this building. It is my duty now to refute them by stating that this house is one of the best constructed edifices in this city, and that it is in a most efficient state and in very good condition, so much so that in the event of making our a thorough overhaul, including all superfluous repairs, the cost will not exceed from two to three thousand dollars.—(Applause.) You are perhaps aware of the enhancement in the value of landed property in this Colony. It is gratifying to me to be able to inform you that we have participated in that improvement. In the course of the past year an offer of $170,000 was made by one individual for your property. It will be admitted that promises of this description and of these dimensions are not easily marketable, but when they do become marketable, as this property has been, and when it behoves one single person to come forward and bid a sum equivalent to the current market value of all your shares in order to acquire it, it will suit us better as a company to keep it. In other words, considering that this is one of the institutions of this Colony, and if one man can afford to offer such a handsome sum of money for the property to this company, the value at which it stands in our books is not very excessive. Under the circumstances we have thought it advisable to decline that offer and reckon up on your support in our action in the matter. I have no further comments to make, but will be glad to answer any questions.—There being no questions I propose that the accounts and report as submitted to the meeting be adopted.

Mr. HOPPIUS seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The following is the

REPORT.

In accordance with Section 53 of the Articles of Association the Directors have again to submit to you their half-yearly report with statement of accounts for the six months ending 31st December, 1877.

NEW LEASE.

In view of the approaching termination of the present lease, the directors deemed it advisable to advertise in the local papers and elsewhere, inviting tenders for a new lease, and have much pleasure in informing the shareholders, that their efforts have so far been successful as to elicit several applications. Correspondence on the subject has now been opened with San Francisco and New York, and from the tenor of the last news received from these places, the directors have reason to expect that their negotiations will result in the conclusion of a favourable arrangement.

LOAN ACCOUNT.

A further sum of $3,000 has during the past six months been paid off, thus reducing the Company's debt to $61,000.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

This account shows a credit-balance of $7,245.19, of which amount the directors, with your concurrence, propose to distribute amongst the shareholders a dividend of $2.50 per share, thus absorbing a sum of $4,645, and to write the balance $2,600.19 off "Hotel and Furniture" account.

DIRECTORS.

According to Section 82 of the Articles of Association two of the directors, Messrs. Wm. Reiners and F. Grobien, retire from the Board, but are eligible for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. A. E. Vaucher and H. Cohen, the retiring auditors, are recommended by the directors for re-election.

E. R. BELILIOS,
Chairman.

Mr. LANDSTEIN proposed that Messrs. W. Reiners and F. Grobien, the retiring directors, be re-elected.

Mr. VAUCHER seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. REINERS proposed that Messrs. A. E. Vaucher and H. Cohen, the retiring auditors, be re-elected.

Mr. GROBIEN seconded.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. VAUCHER—May I ask if we have any further offers than are mentioned in the report about the new lease?

The CHAIRMAN—Similar applications have been made since the publication of the report. A letter was received by Mr. Hauschild only yesterday.

Mr. H. COHEN—Are the offers higher than the present?

Mr. LANDSTEIN—The tenders do not close until the end of this month, and the directors cannot now make any disclosure.

Mr. COHEN—I don't want any disclosure; but do they promise well?

Mr. LANDSTEIN—Well, we don't want to be over sanguine, but we hope so.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the dividend would be payable on and after the 1st of next month.

Mr. SHARP proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The motion was carried by acclamation and the meeting separated.

NAVAL COURT-MARTIAL.

A court-martial was held on the 18th instant, on H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*, to try Horace C. Barnard, Assistant-Paymaster H.M.S. *Lapwing*, on a charge of drunkenness and neglect of duty, before a court composed of Commodore Watson (President), Captain R. H. Napier (*Nassau*), Captain E. J. Church (*Curlew*), Commander E. D. Willcox (*Growler*), and Commander John Bruce (*Victor Emanuel*). Assistant-Paymaster Edward Robinson officiated as judge-advocate. Sir William Wiseman (late Commander of the *Lapwing*) prosecuted.

Lieutenant A. S. Murray, H.M.S. *Lapwing*, said that on the 16th October last between nine o'clock and half-past the prisoner was upon the quarter deck drunk. He was trying to light his pipe, when he fell down. After he got up he walked as though he was drunk. Witness did not accuse the prisoner then of being drunk, nor until about three-quarters of an hour afterwards, when he was placed under arrest by the orders of the captain, who saw him fall. The captain did not say anything to him when he fell. An entry was made in the log, but by whom or by whose orders witness did not know.

In answer to some questions put by the prisoner, witness said that between half-past eight and nine o'clock he (prisoner) was quite sober.

After hearing the evidence of Surgeon J. W. Davis, H.M.S. *Lapwing*, the court was adjourned from day to day until the 24th instant for the attendance of a witness for the defence, who was not then in port.

Upon the Court opening on that date, the prisoner called Assistant-Paymaster G. V. Rashleigh, who said—I am an Assistant-Paymaster attached to H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*.

By the Prisoner—I was on board H.M.S. *Lapwing* on the 16th October, 1877, when at Nagasaki. I came on board about half-past eight o'clock p.m. I went below into the wardroom with you and Commander Sir William Wiseman. I remained there about five or ten minutes and then came on deck. You were standing against the starboard deck-house, stooping to reach the lantern which was on the deck. You apparently tripped and fell upon your face where you laid a few moments as if you were stunned. A few minutes afterwards you got up and sat in the port, where I left you and went on board my own ship (the *Fly*). I did not think that you were drunk.

By the Court—I will swear that the prisoner was not drunk when I left the ship, because he was talking to me a few minutes before he fell, and he then appeared to me to be quite sober.

By Commander Sir William Wiseman—You were on deck with the prisoner five minutes before going below. You were smoking a cigar on deck after you came up from below.

By the Court—I did not ask the prisoner if he was hurt after he fell.

At this stage of the proceedings the Court was adjourned for an hour.

Upon resuming, the prisoner gave his defence, and said—Gentlemen of this Honourable Court. —In submitting my defence, I desire your permission to make the following statement relative to the first charge, feeling that my innocence will be best set forth in giving a plain and straightforward account of the circumstances which gave rise to the charge. On the evening of the 16th October, 1877, about eight o'clock, I went on deck to smoke. Shortly afterwards some officers came on board from another ship. We remained smoking together until quarter to nine o'clock, when we went below to the wardroom, Commander Sir William Wiseman who had joined the smoking party accompaning us. About nine o'clock we again went on deck, the Commander amongst the number, and went on talking and smoking, the Commander standing close to me. It was not more than five minutes after our going on deck the second time that my pipe went out; and in stretching out for the lantern which was upon the deck amongst the racers of the after gun, I tripped over something which I suppose must have been a racer, and fell flat upon my face, the bridge of my nose coming in contact with one of the racers, causing a severe wound. For a few seconds I was partially stunned by the force of my fall. I went below and laid down on my bed still suffering a certain amount of giddiness. Whilst laying down Lieutenant Murray came to my cabin and told me, from the Commander, that I was under arrest. The next morning the Commander sent for me in his cabin and spoke to me about the circumstances of the previous evening. I told him that I was not drunk. He then released me from arrest and I went to my duty, and visited the shore as usual. On arriving at Hongkong the charge was preferred against me, although the circumstance was not reported until the 29th November, a period of six weeks after the occurrence. To the second charge I have already pleaded guilty, and I can only repeat that which is contained in my letter to Commander Sir William Wiseman, of the 27th November last, in which I stated "that the omission which I had made was an oversight," and I beg to throw myself on the mercy of this Honourable Court, trusting that they will deal with me leniently, this being the first occasion I have appeared before a court-martial. I beg to hand in certificates of conduct received from officers under whom I have served extending over a period of sixteen years and a half, and trust that this most Honourable Court will take into consideration the very severe punishment which has already been inflicted upon me by having received a certificate from Commander Sir William Wiseman on H.M.S. *Lapwing* being paid off. The period for which that character is given extends for over three years, and until now it has not been brought to the notice of a higher authority. I am sorry to say, gentlemen, that Lieutenant Murray and Surgeon Davis have not been on speaking terms with me for some time past.

A quantity of certificates were read over by the judge-advocate which all spoke of the prisoner as being a steady, sober, and a promising officer. One certificate from the *Lapwing* stated that during the last three years he had taken to drink.

The Court was then cleared for three-quarters of an hour, when the president gave the following decision:—

In regard to the first charge it had not been proved; Mr. Barnard was therefore acquitted. The Court was of opinion that Commander Sir William Wiseman did not take proper steps to ascertain Mr. Barnard's state before placing him under arrest. On the second charge, to which the prisoner had pleaded guilty, the sentence of the Court was that he should lose six months' seniority.

THE "YESSO" CASE.—SENTENCE.

On the 29th instant, at the Supreme Court, some points of law reserved in favour of the second prisoner in this case were decided against him.

Mr. Justice Snowden then passed sentence as follows:—Theodore Bernard and William Henry King, you have been found guilty by a very sound and wise decision of the jury which tried you of manslaughter, and that means that the deaths of these two men mentioned in the information were caused by neglect of your duties in various ways so blameable as to be culpable, and that means criminal, and you are therefore criminally liable. I must say it would have been a great misfortune if the jury had come to any other verdict. You both undertook duties as engineers on this ship, and you undertook to use all skill and care in the management of the machinery. I quite agree with one of the witnesses who said there was no divided responsibility, if he meant by that that you, the chief engineer, were bound to use your own skill and care in inspecting the machinery and looking out by every means in your power for any defect, caused either by chemical or mechanical action. That was your clear personal duty. That duty you cannot throw on anyone beneath you, but instead of doing that you seem to have waited with folded hands until the third engineer reported to you. You were scarcely on speaking terms. On one occasion you went into the boiler to perform your duty, but did it in such a careless manner that though you saw signs which ought to have led you to make a closer examination you neglected to take steps to ascertain how far the defect went. That is a clear neglect of duty. You, King, had duties of the same kind but in a different degree to perform. It was your duty to go into the boiler and inspect it. You did so and saw its dangerous state, and yet you contented yourself with talking it over with the second engineer. Instead of doing that it was your duty to go to the persons responsible for the ship, and, as the Chief Justice has observed, if half-an-hour before this explosion took place you had made Captain Ashton aware of the deadly peril which existed, I cannot help thinking that many men who have been hurried to death would now be alive. The jury have recommended you to mercy. I have also heard what you have said yourselves and what your counsel has said. I have great pleasure in giving the greatest possible weight to that recommendation and to those remarks. I have no doubt what you say is true, that you yourselves have felt your position very severely, still it is impossible for the court to pass this over without some punishment. Now, as I said before, your positions were different, and I think the greater degree of blame must fall on the chief engineer. He was engaged for a higher degree of skill and knowledge. At the same time I don't think that a very severe punishment is necessary, but I hope that engineers in your position will not imagine that the punishment we award you is to be a precedent, and that if another similar accident occurs they will get off as easily as you. The sentence on you Theodore Bernard is that you be imprisoned in Victoria Gaol for four calendar months without hard labour. The sentence on you William Henry King is that you be imprisoned in Victoria Gaol for three calendar months, also without hard labour.

PRIZE DAY AT THE CENTRAL SCHOOL.

On the morning of the 25th inst. the annual public examination of the pupils of the Government Central School was held, after which the prizes were distributed by His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency was accompanied by his acting aide-de-camp, Mr. C. V. Creagh, and his private secretary, Mr. G. Stafford Northcote. Among those present to witness the proceedings were the Hon. J. G. Austin, C.M.G., Hon. C. C. Smith, the Hon. J. M. Price, the Hon. F. B. Johnson, Mr. Justice Snowdon, Captain H. G. Thomsett, Mr. J. Russell, Mr. A. Lister, Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, Dr. Wharry, Dr. Young, Mr. T. Jackson, Mr. J. J. Francis, Mr. H. E. Braddon, Rev. Dr. Eitel, Rev. R. Lechler, Rev. J. C. Edge, Rev. J. Reusch, a large number of ladies, and other foreign residents, besides a good sprinkling of natives.

HIS EXCELLENCY, having carefully looked over the examination papers and returns of the school, said the first duty he had to perform was to distribute the prizes which Mr. Stewart had put into his hands, which he proceeded to do, addressing to the different recipients a few words of congratulation and encouragement. To Mr. Frank Hazeland, who took the prize in the first class (a watch presented by His Excellency) he said he was happy to give the prize to the son of so worthy a resident of the Colony as Mr. Hazeland was. Mr. Hazeland was for many years our Crown Solicitor; he (Mr. Frank Hazeland) was himself born in Hongkong, and all were aware of the intimate connection his family had with the Colony for many years. In giving him this prize His Excellency hoped it would only be one of many steps in progress he would make.

The following is the Prize list:—

NAME.	PRIZE.	DONOR.
	SPECIAL PRIZES. Best Scholar.	
Tsang Kit-fan	Morrison Scholarship	Morrison Trustees.
	Translation.	
Hung Kam-shing	Watch	Hon. C. C. Smith.
	General Proficiency.	
Lung Man-piu	Cadetship in Customs	Mr. Com'ner Bredon.
	ORDINARY PRIZES. 1st Class.	
Frank Hazeland	Watch	H.E. The Governor.
Tsang Kau-chin	Gold Pencilcase	
A. J. Reid	Pencilcase	Mr. Romano.
	2nd Class.	
Wong Ching-ki	Watch	Mr. Romano.
Ho Fuk	Gold Pencilcase	
Cowasjee Eduljee	Pencilcase	Mr. Romano.
	3rd Class.	
Yeung I-kam	Watch	Mr. Russell.
Miu Tsuk-ki	Inkstand	Old Scholar.
R. Gomes	Inkstand	Old Scholar.
	4th Class.	
Luk King-fo	Watch	Mr. Kwok Tsung.
Chan Ping-hang	Gold Pencilcase	
Kwong Chiu-wing	Gold & Rubber P'case	Mr. Ball.
	5th Class.	
Chan Kam-fong	Watch	Mr. Kwok Tsung.
Lai Ping-chin	Gold & Rubber P'case	
	6th Class.	
Li Yau	Watch	
Ho Tseung-hang	Silver Pencilcase	
	7th Class.	
Wong Kam-sau	Watch	
Leung U-in	Gold & Rubber P'case	Mr. Piercy.
	8th Class.	
Hau Fong-shu	Watch	
Ng Man-ki	Silver Pencilcase	
	9th Class.	
Kwan Shiu-ping	Gold Pencilcase	
Lan Chak	Silver Pencilcase	
	10th Class.	
Chan Ting-sin	Silver Pencilcase	Mr. Gerard.
P'un Chi	Iv. and Silver P'case	
Lam Cheung	Iv. and Silver P'case	
	CHINESE CLASSES.—FORTNIGHTLY EXAMINATIONS. 1st Class.	
Leung Shiu-kong	Binocular	Head Master.
	2nd Class.	
Sham Tin-shan	Silver Pencilcase	Second Master.
	ORDINARY PRIZES. 1st Class.	
Chung Shing-hong	Watch	Mr. Wong Tseung.
Wat Ying-cho	Silver Pencilcase	
	2nd Class.	
Cheung Yung-kan	Silver Pencilcase	
Chan Tin-tseung	Silver Pencilcase	
	3rd Class.	
Ho Tau-yung	Silver Pencilcase	
Tsang King-tai	Iv. and Silver P'case	
	4th Class.	
Li Ip	Silver Pencilcase	
Chua Un-fan	Iv. and Silver P'case	
	CHINESE CLASS FOR EUROPEANS, &c. 1st Division.	
Sheik Akbar	Watch	Hon. J. G. Austin.
A. Ramjun	Three Books	Mr. Machado.
	2nd Division.	
Li Fai	Three Books	Mr. Romano.
F. Machado	Dictionary	Mr. Hyndman.
	3rd Division.	
G. Basa	Three Books	Mr. J. J. Remedios.
C. Franco	Two Books	Mr. J. J. Remedios.

Having completed the distribution of the prizes,

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Ladies and gentlemen, it becomes my pleasing duty to congratulate my friend Mr. Stewart, first of all, on the number of scholars who are here to-day. On one of the last occasions I appeared in public in Hongkong—it was at a concert—I saw that the hall in which the concert was held was but half filled. Well, Mr. Stewart cannot complain to-day that this spacious hall is only half-filled; indeed, on the contrary, the hall in this school, though very spacious, is not, on an occasion like this, large enough to contain, I may say, one half of the pupils who are in attendance throughout the year. I suppose the number of pupils who are sitting before me amounts to something like two hundred and fifty or three hundred. The total number of scholars attending this school during the year 1877 amounted to six hundred and ten and at this moment there are four hundred and thirty-three boys in attendance at the Central School, so that a considerable number of the pupils are not now inside this room. So far, therefore, Mr. Stewart has no cause of complaint as to the attendance at the school; and, I may add, it is not only to-day very large but I believe I am right in saying that in the history of the school it has never been as large as it is to-day. Mr. Stewart now tells me it is larger than it has ever been before. The daily average attendance, which after all is the real test of the working of a school so far as the attendance is concerned, was this year four hundred and thirty-one, being considerably in excess of that of the previous year. But whilst I congratulate Mr. Stewart on that important fact, I must condole with him and the scholars upon the loss that this institution sustained during the past year. The third master, Mr. Gair, obtained leave of absence on account of the delicate state of his health, and, I regret to say, he died in Japan. Mr. Gair was for a long time in the public service of the Colony. He was an Inspector of Police previous to his connection with this institution. Before joining our police force he was a schoolmaster in Scotland, and when he was promoted to the important post of third master in this school, I believe I am justified in saying, in the presence of Mr. Stewart and those who knew him well, that he was an able assistant to the head master, that he gave the utmost satisfaction to Mr. Stewart and the pupils who came in contact with him. Whilst, therefore, I am bound to express publicly my great regret at his loss, I have at all events the satisfaction of recording the fact that the Government have been able to obtain the assistance of a very competent gentleman to take his place, and I may say in passing, that on a recent visit to this school I was much pleased to see how admirably Mr. Falconer, the second master in the school, Mr. Ball, and Mr. Piercy assisted Mr. Stewart. When you think of the large number of pupils in this school, you will appreciate the responsibility of Mr. Stewart and the other gentlemen who are entrusted with the management of this institution. What I saw in the school and what I have read of the previous reports of Mr. Stewart, and of the progress of the school, all convince me that a change is necessary in the management of this institution in the direction of giving more leisure to Mr. Stewart to attend to the higher duties of inspector of schools.—(Applause). I think we are exacting from Mr. Stewart more than any one man, no matter how accomplished and able he may be, can perform in asking him to be not only the inspector of all our schools, but also to retain the post of head master in this school. I believe that if Mr. Stewart were to take the position of inspector of schools, maintaining of course in that position a proper supervision over this school, he would be able to give to the whole educational scheme of the Colony a closer attention than he is at present able to bestow upon it. It does not do for us if we happen to have a very good officer to overwork him, and with the growth, the steady but yet rapid growth, of this school the work of Mr. Stewart must have grown in proportion, and the time has come when I think I may fairly consider whether or not some change should not be made of the nature I have indicated. Of course, as you are aware, whatever change I may think it necessary to make it will be my duty to report to Her Majesty's Government, but, knowing what the services of Mr. Stewart have been to the school, I believe the Secretary of State would favourably entertain any recommendation in that direction by the Governor of the colony. Perhaps I may take this opportunity of saying a word or two to the students who are present, on a subject which at one time attracted a good deal of my attention and which, close as we are to China, is not an inappropriate subject in addressing an audience such as this. You are all aware that the Government of the Great Empire close to us relies for obtaining its official element upon a system of open competitive examination, established now for many centuries in China, and you are also aware that some of the countries in Europe—I will not say following the example of China, but certainly treading in the footsteps of China—have established also a system of open competitive examination for appointments in the civil service. Now one of my predecessors, many, many years ago, in writing to the Secretary of State, expressed his opinion that the Government of China was able to conduct the administration of China—of that vast empire stretching down from Peking to Canton—was able to conduct that government from Peking mainly by reason of this system of open competitive examinations, and by relying on certain great moral principles, such as parental authority, which that government at all times enforces. Not long since, when paying a flying visit to Canton, I was shown by Archdeacon Gray the examination halls in that city. As well as I remember, he told me that at the last examination there were three thousand candidates, and there were very few more than one hundred of these three thousand that were to obtain the degrees, that is, there were few more than one hundred degrees to be given. The result was that during the two or three days the examination lasted the intellectual struggle between these three and four thousand students was very great. The names of the hundred who passed were recorded, and from time to time, as vacancies occurred in the public service of China, they obtained appointments, and in that way some of the most powerful mandarins in China have obtained the public offices they hold. Now the question occurred to me when I arrived in this colony, would it be possible for me to do anything in that direction here; and perhaps you will excuse me if I refer to the personal reminiscence that some years ago, in the House of Commons, I made a motion for a committee to ascertain whether it was possible to throw open to public competition the whole of the appointments of the civil service in England. We had a debate upon that subject. Lord Palmerston, no doubt a very wise statesman, though perhaps on that occasion in the wrong, opposed my motion. The House of Commons, however, supported me; I had the satisfaction so far of defeating the Ministry. A committee was appointed and that committee recommended that the civil service of England should be thrown open to free public competition. It came to pass a few years later, in 1870, that Mr. Gladstone, who was then the Prime Minister of England, by an Order in Council carried into effect the recommendation of that committee, and I had the great honour and satisfaction of receiving from him a letter in which he acquainted me with what he had done, and he was pleased to say that he had all along sympathised with my efforts to throw open the civil service of England to public competition. And at this moment, if a clerkship is vacant in the Colonial Office, in the Board of Admiralty, in any of the great departments of the State (with one exception), any young man in England, without any favour or patronage, can compete for the appointment. And what is the result? I am told by the heads of the departments in England—the Secretary of the Treasury has told me so, many of the leading officials in the public service have told me that since this system was established they find the tone of the service has improved and they have now an admirable staff of clerks. I may add that in India a similar result has occurred. The system was brought into operation in the time of Lord Lawrence, and his present brilliant successor, Lord Lytton, has borne testimony to the fact that the system of open competitions for the appointments in India has done great good to the Government of India. Under these circumstances I thought it possible, perhaps, to introduce the system into this colony, and accordingly we have had already one or two examinations. On one occasion there was a clerkship worth £200 per annum to be given away. It was a Chinese clerkship, and usually such a post was given by the Governor of the Colony, who looked over his list of applicants, and gave the appointment as he might think best, but I thought it well to try the experiment of an open competition. Accordingly I asked the head of the department (it was in the Magistracy) to become an examiner, and Mr. May was good enough to undertake the duty. I also asked a Chinese scholar, Bishop Burdon, and my right rev. friend consented, and to these two I added Mr. Ng Choy, a Chinese gentleman who is now a member of the English bar. Well, these three examiners were good enough to prepare the examination papers, and they made their report to me in course of time. I was disappointed, undoubtedly, at the result of that examination. The examiners reported that none of the candidates passed the examination sufficiently well to entitle them to the appointment. The examination consisted of translating a document which had come to the magistracy in the ordinary course of business, a Chinese document, into English, and of translating the deposition of a witness taken at the magistracy some weeks before into Chinese, and in reading and writing from dictation. That was a simple test, and, nevertheless, eleven candidates having presented themselves, I regretted to find that the examiners could not recommend to me any one of the eleven as having properly passed the examination. Now it would be I think very foolish for us to shut our eyes to a fact of that kind. The examination could hardly be simpler than it was. The clerkship to be given away was of some value, $80 a month, and the result was certainly somewhat disappointing. But I venture to repeat, what I at that time put in a minute, published in the *Gazette*, that looking at the report of the examiners, though I regretted the result, I felt the Chinese students who competed at that examination had shown great intelligence and industry and I had every hope that at a subsequent examination some of them would be successful. I have no doubt that in subsequent examinations some of them will be successful. Whatever scheme I may establish, that scheme of examinations should be in accordance with the educational position of the colony, and in endeavouring to introduce this system we must not fly too high at first, but if possible bring of our standard down to that which we know to exist in the colony. And on this subject I am bound to say—my friend Mr. Stewart mentioned there was a position in the Customs given by Mr. Bredon, which appointment has been awarded to-day to a Chinese youth whom I see here on my right—it is fair to mention that some of the best pupils in this school declined to take that appointment given by Mr. Bredon. It does not at all follow that the best pupils of this school or of the others in the colony, aspire to Government employment. I may say for my own part, though I have the honour to be in the service of Her Majesty, I would not recommend the youth of this colony, or any other, to look forward to Government employment as the sole end or aim of their education. Fortunately we are living in the centre of a great mercantile community and I believe the small number that competed for the clerkship to which I have been referring is to some extent owing to the fact that many who could undoubtedly have passed that examination with credit, preferred, and very rightly preferred, to devote themselves to other pursuits. Now in giving whatever appointments may be at the disposal of the Governor of this Colony, I shall still adhere, within certain safe limits, to the arrangements already announced upon this subject, but I believe I will be justified from time to time in selecting clerks from young men who may be recommended to me by Mr. Stewart or other competent gentlemen in the colony. To give occasionally an appointment by open competition, and on the other hand to retain in my own gift a little share at all events of that patronage which all Governors heretofore have kept in their own hands exclusively, will, I believe, not be detrimental to the public service of Hongkong.—(Applause). Now, ladies and gentlemen, you are all aware that the subject of education is not one upon which people in this colony have been silent. For many years past it has been discussed in every shape and form, and indeed, I was not many hours in the colony before it was brought to my notice; even before I went down to the Council Chamber to read Her Majesty's commission, I was advised by the intelligent organs of the Press to announce what was called my policy on the subject of education. However, I had other things to do, and in addition to that, I thought it well to pay some attention to the subject, to study it on the spot, before I ventured to express any opinion. And what is my policy? It is to promote Education; and I may say in one word, I shall be most happy, during the five or six years that it may be my pleasure to be here, to do all in my power to promote the success of this institution, the Central School.—(Applause.) When I visited it the other day and saw Mr. Falconer and the other gentlemen going through the daily routine of their duties, I was struck by some incidents, which it is well for us to bear in mind, because they suggest the possibility of improvements which I know Mr. Stewart has at heart. I visited one large class room, indeed a sort of double class room, on the other side of that passage. In that room I should think there must have been a hundred and fifty Chinese youths who were being instructed by three Chinese teachers. They were reading the Chinese classics. I found that the three Chinese teachers who were instructing them in the Chinese classics had themselves no knowledge of the English language. These three Chinese teachers spoke no English, and of the pupils in that particular class room not one could speak English. These pupils, I was very glad to see, were reading the Chinese classics by the aid of the Chinese teachers. During the whole of the year we have had six hundred and ten pupils attending the school. I asked Mr. Stewart this morning how many of these were able to speak English, and he said under fifty or sixty, and this small number very imperfectly. Now, these are grave facts. They point to that which Mr. Stewart wishes—to the desirability of our endeavouring to keep the pupils a little longer in the school. We must not be satisfied with 60 out of 600 being able to speak English, and that imperfectly. The system unfortunately is that after learning perhaps only what we might call a smattering of knowledge, many of the pupils leave the school and go at once into some business house. I believe Mr. Stewart will be able to suggest to me means by which we might induce the pupils to devote a longer period to their school studies. I do not mean a longer period each day, but a greater number of years. But it also suggests something else. With whom do those boys that I now see before me mix after they leave this school—how many English speaking associates or friends have they? Very, very few. In this colony—and in that respect it is unlike Singapore—you don't meet with many Chinese who in the ordinary course of business can speak or write English. I think one of our principal duties as educationists should be to increase the number of English speaking and English writing Chinese inhabitants of Hongkong. I believe we will be able to do that not only by means of this valuable institution, but also by the other educational agencies in this Colony. Now, Mr. Stewart has placed in my hands a list of the one hundred and forty-eight pupils of this school who left the school during last year, and I find on glancing through it that many of the pupils left the school to obtain employment in life. I find the first pupil is now a master in this very school, another pupil is a clerk to one of our leading merchants, another pupil is now employed in a piece goods shop, another pupil has become a compradore, and, judging by the experience of some of the European gentlemen present, I suppose he will make an immense fortune, for the compradores are not the poorest class in this Colony.—(Laughter). I see another pupil has become an assistant in his father's business. Some of them have gone into business or their own account. One of them, I see, has become a medical student. Well, I read that with great interest, but on looking a little closer at the list I see it is not a Chinese boy who has become a medical student, and this brings me to a suggestion I have to make to Mr. Stewart. I should like very much to ask Mr. Stewart whether it might be possible in connection with this school to do anything in the way of promoting medical education among the Chinese.—(Applause.) We all know that there is in this colony a large and excellent institution called the Tung Wah Hospital. Can we in any way combine medical instruction which might be received in that establishment with a little instruction in physiology in this school? Will it be possible for Mr. Stewart, having consulted with the Colonial Surgeon and with some of our medical friends and the committee of that institution—will it be possible, I say, for Mr. Stewart to form a scheme by which we might have some young Chinese trained to a knowledge of European medicine? If he succeeds in putting a plan, a practical plan, before me, I certainly will consult my honourable friends on the Council as to providing funds for carrying it into effect.—(Applause). I am bound, as the Governor of this colony, to say that there is one object of public instruction that above all others should engage my attention. Nothing is now so universally recognised as this fact—that education is the greatest deterrent to crime, and therefore it is my duty, and has been since I arrived here, to consider how far our educational system cooperates with the Government in the repression and in the prevention of crime, and on that subject I noticed a paragraph in the last report of my friend Mr. Stewart which is undoubtedly a very serious one. At the very end of his report he mentions the fact that whilst, I think he says, there were 16,400 children in the Colony, only four thousand odd were attending school. Deducting those under the age of six there are, he says, no less than twelve thousand children of age to attend school who are attending no school whatever. Where are they? Well, as you go along to East Point you have an opportunity sometimes of seeing some of these little boys. They are running about in the streets. As you come along here you see numbers of them also. I say it is my first duty to endeavour with Mr. Stewart to educate as many of these uneducated children as we can.—(Applause.) I therefore contemplate consulting my Council upon the establishment in this Colony of an industrial school and of extending the reformatory system, such as it is at this moment. It is our duty to do so, a duty we owe not only to the children, but a duty we also owe to the tax-payers of this colony—to prevent our juvenile population from growing up into a criminal class. It is our duty on all hands to endeavour to diminish that serious number of twelve thousand which Mr. Stewart mentions.—(Applause.) I may tell you of my own experience in the very last Colony I had the honour of governing—I was looking only a few weeks ago over a parliamentary return laid before the House of Commons in which it is said by the legislature of that Colony that one in eighteen of the population are attending school. Well, in this colony the number is only, as far as I have been able to ascertain, one in fifty-two, so that there is here a very large margin for educational work. We have much to do, and crowded as this hall is to-day, we must have many halls like it filled before the public instruction of Hongkong will be on the same satisfactory basis as I have seen it in other places. These are facts, ladies and gentlemen, which it is desirable for us to remember. It is by knowing them and by co-operating together that we can secure in this colony that proper quantity and quality of public instruction which a Government ought to provide. And I may say this is especially our duty here upon the confines of China, for speaking in the presence of perhaps one of the most distinguished scholars of China and Chinese, my friend Dr. Eitel—he will bear me out in saying the instruction of the people, no matter how rude and elementary, is carried out in that great empire and has been for centuries carried out in a mode which should set us an example. In the Chinese villages at the other side of the water you see all or nearly all the little boys attending school. It may be that they learn from our point of view very little. They get off by heart a few moral and ethical precepts, but such as they are, there they are kept repeating them. They are kept at school away from the streets, and whatever the educational result may be it is manifest that the peace and good order, speaking generally, of that vast empire is in no small degree dependent on the vast mesh of instruction there is over the whole. Now, ladies and gentlemen, this I think is a fitting opportunity for me, in again congratulating Mr. Stewart and congratulating the pupils who have obtained these prizes to-day to say that whatever discussions there may have been in this colony, and they have raged pretty warmly now for a good many years, I believe we all unite in an earnest desire to promote the public instruction of the people, and I believe when we come to examine what are called the differences that exist, it will be found they are not very deep and that they should not keep us apart. On a recent occasion, during the absence of my right rev. friend Bishop Burdon, I had the pleasure of distributing the prizes at St. Paul's College. What I then said I now repeat, that the Government of this Colony is above the quarrels, discussions, and controversies of the educationists; the only desire of the Government is to do full justice and give fair play to all parties, and it is not because the Government gives assistance one day to one particular party that it is to be debarred the next day from assisting properly another party. As long as we can promote public instruction so long I believe you will all co-operate with me in carrying out that policy of perfect fairness to all, and in doing that not only will we educate the people, but will also—what is perhaps a secondary consideration but not unimportant—restore a little more harmony into our educational polemics.—(Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY again rose and said—I think, gentlemen, I may venture, imitating the example of my most worthy predecessor, to ask Dr. Eitel if he will favour us with a few remarks on a subject on which there is no better authority than himself the great subject of public instruction.

The Rev. Dr. EITEL—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, I feel very much at a loss as to what I can possibly say after the very admirable remarks that have already fallen from His Excellency, which have touched a responsive chord in all our hearts, as they ought to do, for we all have at heart the education of our fellow creatures. Only one thing I notice not specially mentioned in His Excellency's speech, but which no doubt is included in His Excellency's programme, and that is the education of girls. A great deal has indeed already been done in this Colony for the education of boys, but very little for the education of female children, and I hope His Excellency, in his scheme for the future education of this Colony, will make special provision by the institution of girl's schools. (Applause.) I have no doubt I am expressing the feelings of all present when I say the education of the Colony is in excellent hands.—(Applause.)

Mr. STEWART—I have to thank Your Excellency, and the ladies and gentlemen who have favoured us with their presence to-day, for your attendance and for the presents which have been given as prizes. If your Excellency will now dismiss us for our holidays until the 1st March we shall be very glad.

HIS EXCELLENCY then announced the holidays and the proceedings terminated.

HONGKONG.

The Hon. Phineas Ryrie arrived here by the P. and O. steamer *Indus*, on the 27th inst.

The *Yesso* came out of Dock on the 26th inst. She has been thoroughly overhauled and her engines and machinery are now in excellent working order.

We hear that Sir John Smale, the learned Chief Justice, will probably leave for England for a short period in the spring in order to recruit his health.

The American ship *Charger*, Captain Hallett, which arrived here on the 28th inst. from Liverpool with coal for the P. and O. Company, reports having been in the China Sea for fifty days.

Captain Edmund J. Church has been superseded in command of H.M.S. *Curlew* on his promotion to post rank by Commander Wm. McF. Castle, late first lieutenant of H.M.S. *Audacious*.

The British steamship *Zanzibar*, Captain Gardiner Fox, which arrived here on the 18th inst. from Shimonoseki, with a full cargo of rice, is the first British steamer which has loaded at that port.

By the recent Royal Warrant for promotion and retirement of officers of the Army, Lieut.-Colonel Dickins, 28th Regiment, and Lieut.-Colonel Stuart, R.E., have been gazetted to colonelcies.

A native passenger boat was, we are informed, seized on the 13th instant by the Customs Officer in charge of the station at Monkey Island, and sent to Canton. It is alleged that she had dutiable goods on board.

His Excellency the Governor has, we notice by the *Gazette*, provisionally appointed Mr. Francis Bulkley Johnson to be a member of the Legislative Council of Hongkong, *vice* the Hon. William Keswick absent on leave.

The steamship *Washi*, Captain Hunter, has made a splendid run to Haiphong and back. From the time she let go the buoy in Hongkong stopping three days in Haiphong loading with gambier, tin, and a large quantity of silk, until her arrival in Hongkong again was eight days and thirty minutes.

The *Galley of Lorne*, which arrived here on the 20th inst., reports that the second engineer, John Preeble, was washed overboard in the Bay of Biscay during heavy weather. Coming up the China Sea a seaman named Otto Ostend was washed off the forecastle-head on to the main deck and had his right leg broken. On arrival here he was removed to the Civil Hospital.

The American ship *Wildwood*, Captain Harriman, reports having experienced very heavy weather on the 18th instant in lat. 12.53 N., long. 130 E. carrying away three top-gallant-masts, mizen topmast, three yards, and fourteen sails. She spoke the British ship *Globe*, Captain Harrington, off Obaimaja Island, on the 1st instant, all well, which vessel had been in calms for some time.

The United States steam frigate *Tennessee*, Captain Jonathan Young, (flagship of Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson) arrived here on the 21st inst. from Amoy, which place she left on the 19th inst. Upon her arrival she saluted the port, which was returned from the shore battery; she then saluted Vice-Admiral Hillyar and the French Admiral, which salutes were returned respectively by the *Audacious* and *Atalante*.

A telegram has been received by Messrs. Vogel, Hagedorn and Co. from New York, dated the 28th instant, stating that the British ship *Hannah Law*, Captain Greig, had been abandoned at sea. The *Hannah Law* was a vessel of 1,299 tons. She left Hongkong about the 8th August last with a valuable cargo of sugar and general merchandise of some 2,700 tons for New York. About the end of November she put into St. Helena in distress. She was there repaired, and left that port for New York in the second week of December. She was abandoned somewhere between St. Helena and New York. No further particulars have been received, but it is conjectured that a portion of the crew, if not the whole of them, must have been saved.

The subscriptions raised on behalf of the surviving sufferers and relatives of those killed by the *Yesso* explosion amount to $11,583.05, which has been apportioned in the following manner:—Passengers dead 41 (relatives of), $140 each; recovered 6, $50 each; slightly hurt 1, $25. Boarding-house runners: dead 14, $100 each; recovered 5, $20 each. Firemen and sailors; dead, 14, $90 each; recovered 1, $25. Coolies and boatmen; dead 23, $70 each; recovered 6, $25 each. There are four men who are not identified, and would have received $70 each, but that amount ($280) will go towards erecting tablets for them, and providing joss stick, &c. The total number of people dead is 98; that of recovered, 19. The total expenditure will be about $100 more than what has already been collected, which the Hospital Committee will make good. Upwards of $700 has been spent in chin-chinning joss.

We have received the following report from the British ship *Sydenham*, Captain Millar, from Hongkong for London, which passed Anjer on January 6th, 15 days out:—The first four days after leaving Hongkong, had a strong gale from N.E., with heavy rain and high sea; passed the Natunas on December 28th, from there to Gasper faint airs from N.W., with much rain at times; passed through the Macclesfield Channel on January 4th; from Gasper, had light breeze with occasional heavy squalls of wind and rain. At Gasper saw the *Aberlady*, apparently afloat, off North end of Alceste Reef, with royal yards across, and anchored out astern; she appeared very light, drawing not more than ten feet of water; people were living on board, and she had all gear aloft for discharging cargo. A very large iron ship was ashore, not far from the *Aberlady*, with hull nearly all under water.

The body of a Chinaman, evidently that of a man brutally murdered, was found near the Black Rock, Kowloon, on the 26th inst. The instrument used was a knife or dagger, the body being horribly cut in many places. The deceased appears to have defended himself at first with his umbrella, as it is cut, and after that with his hands, which are greatly mutilated. The body has not been identified, nor is there as yet any clue to the murderer. The motive also seems to be a mystery. It has been suggested that the man was returning from a gambling-house, and that the object was robbery, but as a small sum of money was found upon him, this seems improbable, unless the murderer had been disturbed in his work. From the state of the body the affair seems to have taken place on the previous day. An inquest was held on the body on the 28th inst., when the above facts were deposed to and the jury returned a verdict of murder by some person or persons unknown.

Her Majesty's troopship *Tamar*, Captain Brownrigg, from Singapore, with the 74th Highlanders, under the command of Major John Jago, arrived here on the afternoon of the 28th inst. The numbers are—27 officers, 878 non-commissioned officers and men, 57 women, and 105 children, 3 officers' wives, 4 children, and 4 female servants. The following is a list of the officers:—Majors—John Jago and Abel Straghan. Captains—Robert E. Dare, Peter M'Alpine, Evelyn John Hamilton, Charles Squirl, and James Otway Toler. Quartermaster—Donald Swanson. Lieutenants—Henry Boughey, Claude M. MacDonald, Henry Robert Kelham, Carteret W. Carey, Henry Ludlow Lopes, Richard E. Goold-Adams, Dudley Stuart Kays, Frank Maxwell, John Henry Greer, Gilbert A. Eagan, Cecil C. Cavendish, and John G. E. Templer. Sub-Lieutenants—W. Mordaunt M. Edwards, A. A. Hunsage, H. Midwood, A. M. Synge, and L. H. Stevenson. Mr. Nornington, R.N., was also a passenger from Singapore. The Regiment landed from the *Tamar* the following morning at the Naval Yard, and, headed by their band, marched to the Victoria and Wellington Barracks.

The seamen and Marines of the ships of the China Squadron at present in Hongkong Harbour landed on the 24th inst. at the Naval Yard at quarter-past nine o'clock a.m., and proceeded, accompanied with the field-pieces of Her Majesty's ship *Audacious* and the band, to Happy Valley, taking the road by the Praya East. On arriving at the Valley the seamen formed into line, marching to the front and rear; they then broke into column to the right and wheeled into line; marched to the front and wheeled to column; wheeled into line on the march; halted and formed column rear of number one, deployed to the left; took ground to the right by fours; turned about and front formed companies; took ground by fours again, and wheeled to the right; the rear then formed companies and marched to the front, wheeled into line, grounded arms, and broke off. The field-pieces went to another part of the ground, where they were drilled by an instructor. They left the ground at ten minutes after eleven, marched to the Naval Yard, and proceeded to their respective ships. The men were under the command of Commander Alfred A. A. C. Parr, of the *Audacious*. The Marines, who went through manual, firing, and bayonet exercise, were under the command of Captain E. Ray, of H.M.S. *Audacious*.

The 18th inst. was prize-day at St. Paul's College. His Excellency the Governor distributed the prizes, and amongst those present were:—Lady Smale, Mrs. Burdon, Hon. J. G. Austin, C.M.G., Hon. C. C. and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Snowden, Mrs. Phillippo, Mrs. Gilborne, Mrs. Macfarlane, Mrs. Kerr, Mr. G. S. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. G. Sharp, Mrs. E. Sharp, Rev. Dr. Eitel, Rev. J. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Lammert, Mr. Tomlin, Mr. Braddon, Mrs. May, and Mrs. Davis.—Mr. May, in the absence of the Bishop, thanked His Excellency for coming to distribute the prizes and the ladies and gentlemen present for their attendance. His Excellency, he said, would find on the table a report from Mr. Stewart showing the results of the examination. The actual numbers of scholars in attendance, the average daily attendance, and also the number presented for examination all showed an increase; there was only one decrease and that was in the number of failures, 89.58 of the number presented having passed.—His Excellency complimented Mr. May and his colleague upon the successful result of the working of the school, and said great praise was due to His Lordship the Bishop, whose absence he was sure they all very much regretted, for sustaining such an institution. He went on to say that we have the grant-in-aid scheme here similar to that at home, of which St. Paul's College availed itself, and of which all schools were free to avail themselves. This was the first time for some number of years that the Government of the Colony had been asked to distribute prizes in St. Paul's College. Having been asked, there were many reasons why he should not decline. The Government should not be partial to any one sect or party. St. Paul's College was an institution in which religion was taught, the Bible being read every day. It was the duty of the Government to support all educational institutions, both secular and otherwise, and he was sure there was nobody in the Colony who would not admit the value of education. All people were anxious for education, and all parties should get their fair share of support from the Government. St. Paul's College was an institution well worthy of support, and some of the most trustworthy Chinese officials and those who were best acquainted with the English language had been educated there. The education question was a very important one, and compelled a great deal of attention at home. We have not all the same ideas upon it, but we all agree that education is necessary, and he thought that when the matter came to be examined there was not so much difference in regard to it as appeared on the surface. Out here the Government ought to act on the same principles as the Government at home and lend a hand to all those deserving of it. His Excellency then proceeded to distribute the prizes, addressing a few words to each of the recipients. He said that when he had an opportunity of rewarding merit by giving an appointment he would not adhere strictly to the system of open competitive examination.

CHINA.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

19th January.

A notice has been issued by the Provincial Treasurer to the effect that rice either for import or export in the eighteen provinces of China is to be free from lekin duty for twelve months commencing from the 11th moon of the current Chinese year. This will prove a great relief to the people and will encourage importation.

Robbery and incendiarism are very prevalent in this city just now, owing doubtless to the high price of food and consequent distress and to the near approach of the native New Year. Two unsuccessful attempts at incendiarism were fortunately discovered the other day before any damage was done, but the authors of the mischief escaped. Rewards have been offered for information or for the capture of the ruffians.

As I mentioned in a previous communication, the kidnappers are actively at work, and it is necessary for parents to keep a sharp look-out on their children. A day or two since, two of these heartless scoundrels, who had succeeded in stealing four children, took them on a passage boat, with the intention of conveying them to another district to dispose of them. The boat-people, guessing that the children had been stolen, remonstrated with the two men and begged them to send them to their homes. The kidnappers replied that it was no business of theirs, and high words ensued. These led to blows, the kidnappers drew out swords, and a struggle ensued in which one of the crew was severely wounded. The two child-stealers were, however, finally overpowered and handed over to the authorities. The rescued children were, I believe, forwarded to their friends. This sort of thing is of everyday occurrence in China, and it will take vigorous action to put it down thoroughly.

THE MEDICAL MISSIONS.

The thirty-ninth annual meeting of the Medical Missionary Society in China was held in Canton, at the house of Messrs. Olyphant and Company on the 17th inst. There were present, Sir Brooke Robertson, C.B., in the chair; Mr. C. P. Lincoln, U.S. Consul; Mr. F. McLeavy Brown, Commissioner of Customs; Ven. Archdeacon Gray, LL.D.; Rev. Dr. Happer; Rev. John Chalmers, M.A.; Rev. R. H. Graves, M.D.; Rev. George Piercy; Messrs. F. Sampson, F. R. Talbot, T. B. Cunningham, H. R. Maynard, and Gideon Nye, Revs. S. E. Faber, Henry Parkes, F. Hubrig, B. C. Henry, F. Gibson, E. Dukes, Friend, Lechler, Jackson, and Ridges; Dr. F. Wong, and Dr. Carrow (Secretary).

The usual annual reports of the surgeon in charge of the hospital, including one of the outlying dispensaries, were presented; but two other country stations we still to be included before full publication of the report for the year. The data already furnished, however, suffices to show a gratifying increase in the attendance of the people and the consequent enlargement of the circle of the beneficent action that it is the purpose of the Society to extend *pari passu* with the natural development of its system and the increase of pecuniary contributions to its means. The past year's experience furnishes an illustration of this working of the system, and consequently a vote was taken on this occasion to increase the estimate of expenses for the current year by the sum of $185. The increase of attendance at Canton and one out-station alone last year over that of 1876 was about 2,500.

The Board of Officers was re-elected with the exception of the following changes:—The election of Mr. William Von Pustau, in place of Mr. Cordes, who has retired to Europe; of the Rev. George Piercy and of Mr. T. B. Cunningham, as Vice-Presidents; and the omission of the name of the late Mr. Preston from that category.

The extraordinary features of the meeting were the presentation of resolutions and addresses consequent on the death of Mr. Preston, who as a Vice-President, member of the standing Committee, and preacher in the Chapel, had rendered great service to the Society.

Another feature was the circumstance of the presiding of Sir Brooke Robertson for the last time, prior to his permanent departure from Canton and his consequent leave taking, upon which Rev. Dr. Happer and Mr. Consul Lincoln gave

expression to the general sense of the meeting, and Sir Brooke, in reply, recalled his long connection with the Society, and expressed his continued sympathy with its purposes; adding that the general cause of missions here was in good hands, and that he was cognizant of the recognition of that fact by the higher native authorities.

SHANGHAI.

Intelligence has been received of the advance of the Chinese expeditionary force in Kashgaria, as far as the cities of Aksu and Ush Turfan, which they had occupied. Hakim Khan Tura, who held possession of these places in his struggle to wrest the sovereignty of Kashgar from Kuli Beg, is believed to have surrendered them to the advancing Chinese.

It will afford home readers some idea of the severity of the weather experienced last week at Shanghai, when we say that we are assured the river froze over one morning at Woosung, and that on the same morning a sheet of ice extended from the French Bund to the mail steamer. There has been a quantity of ice about in the river, and one shooting boat, which was down the river on the 13th instant, found its return greatly impeded by its presence.

General Julius Stahel, who arrived about a week ago from Japan, where he had been fulfilling the duty of Consul for the United States, was on the 10th inst. formally sworn in as Vice-Consul General of Shanghai; and we understand that, as the Hon. G. Wiley Wells is likely soon to leave Shanghai, he will, in the course of a few days, take charge of the United States Consulate-General until further notice. The ability and uniform courtesy displayed by Mr. Wells as Consul-General, during his brief stay here, have won for him many friends, and his departure will be regretted. Some of his duties here have been of the most unenviable nature, but he appears to have discharged them with discretion and firmness.

The telephone will soon be put to practical use in Shanghai, and Chinese will be the first to adopt it. The C.M.S.N. Co. have given instructions for one of the instruments to be put up, to connect Kin-le-yuen with their office in the Hankow road and their Lower Wharf in Hongkew—say a distance of about three miles. This is to replace the telegraph, Chinese finding the working of that mode of communication difficult through having to substitute a code of figures for words. We also hear that Messrs. Butterfield and Swire are likewise about adopting the telephone for a similar purpose. Recent experiments by made Mr. J. D. Bishop tend to show that a line may be worked successfully by duplex telephony, viz., may be used for talking both ways at the same time.

A meeting was held on the 23rd instant in Union Chapel, for the purpose of according a welcome to the Rev. E. R. Palmer, as the Pastor of the church and congregation. The meeting was well attended. The Rev. Mr. Muirhead commenced with devotional exercises, and then called on Dr. Johnston, as Chairman of the Committee of Management, to preside on the occasion. He stated in appropriate terms the object of their gathering together, and congratulated the members of the congregation on having secured the services of the Rev. Mr. Palmer as their Pastor. The Revs. Messrs. Roberts, Barratt, and Muirhead then addressed the meeting on the new relationship that was being formed, and extended a warm welcome to the new Pastor, wishing for him much prosperity and success in the duties of his office. Mr. Palmer replied in suitable manner. The very Rev. Dean Butcher came into the Chapel during Mr. Palmer's address, and, at the request of the Chairman, expressed his satisfaction at being present on the occasion. The Rev. Mr. Palmer then concluded with prayer and the benediction.

Our community will hear with very sincere regret, that Mr. C. W. Goodwin, late Acting Judge of H. M. Supreme Court for China and Japan is dead. He died shortly after noon on the 17th inst., after a long and very painful illness. Mr. Goodwin was only in his sixty-first year. On the establishment of the Supreme Court here, he was appointed Assistant Judge, a post which he filled, except when Acting Judge during the temporary absence of Sir Edmund Hornby in England, until the summer of 1876, when Sir Edmund having retired, Mr. Goodwin became Acting Chief Judge; and removed from Japan, where he had been fulfilling his duties during the preceding three years, to Shanghai. During his former residence in Shanghai, he had not only taken a warm interest in whatever was for the good of the community, but he was a most useful member of the N. C. B. of the Royal Asiatic Society. His scientific tastes never left him, and he was a frequent contributor to learned societies at home. So far as his time allowed he continued such labours in Yokohama, and doubtless would have renewed them here. His illness, however, attacked him shortly after his arrival, and he has even been unable for many months to take his seat on the Bench. Every one who knew Judge Goodwin loved him; and we feel that no words we can pen can express to his widow and family the deep sympathy we all feel in their heavy bereavement.

On Saturday afternoon (the 19th instant), the remains of the late Charles Wycliffe Goodwin, Acting Judge of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court for China and Japan, were carried to their last resting place, in the Shanghai Cemetery, in the presence of a very representative gathering of the residents in these Settlements. The Consular Services of the different nationalities, the Supreme Court officials, the Municipal Council and officials, the Bar and the various other Professions, the Commercial body, the Royal Navy, the local Volunteer Forces, and Municipal Police, were all represented; and a member of each circle assisted in the mournful duty of carrying the coffin to the grave. The funeral was announced to take place at half-past three o'clock, and before that time many persons, anxious to show their respect for the memory of the deceased, assembled at the appointed rendezvous in the Mortuary Chapel at the Cemetery. Here the remains of the deceased lay upon an ordinary bier, in front of the reading-desk. The coffin was covered with black cloth, and was fitted with black furniture; and upon the lid, loving hands had placed a cross and two wreaths composed of camellias and cypress. The lid bore the following inscription:—"Charles Wycliffe Goodwin, died 17th January, 1878; aged 60 years." The congregation, whose numbers nearly filled the Mortuary Chapel, being seated, the Very Rev. Dean Butcher, D.D., proceeded to read the first portion of the Service appointed for the burial of the dead; and then, amid solemn silence, the bearers reverently arranged themselves on each side the coffin, and the Dean placing himself at the head, the procession wended its way slowly to the vaulted grave prepared for the deceased, around which all grouped, and, bareheaded, listened sorrowfully while the Dean read the concluding portion of the Burial Service; at the termination of which all dispersed, and the ceremony was over.

Some further interesting experiments were made on the forenoon on the 14th instant, with the telephone, in presence of the Municipal Council, and in the afternoon before other residents. Four telephones were worked, two at each end of one of the ordinary telegraph wires stretching from the Central Police Station to the Police Station at Hongkew, a temporary connection being made by a continuance of the wire from thence into Mr. J. D. Bishop's drawing room, where the circuit was completed. The other end of the wire was carried into Mr. Penfold's office. The experiments in the forenoon were not nearly so successful as those in the afternoon, the noise of conversation carried on in the room interfering greatly with the vibrations of the diaphragm, and consequently the transmission of vocal sounds—though the interruptions were in one sense useful as showing the extreme sensitiveness of the metal and enabling a test to be made as to how much, or rather, how little, noise might be made without interfering with the tiny discs. Illustrations were given in the afternoon by Mr. Bishop from his drawing-room, Mr. E. Wells conducting the experiments from the Central Station end. Conversation was maintained, songs were sung and the piano played—all being heard by those in Mr. Penfold's office with astonishing clearness and ease. Sufficient power was educed at starting to send the tones of the human voice 200 miles, this distance being afterwards increased, by the insertion of more of what are termed "resistances," thereby multiplying the power to about 10,000 "units," equal to 500 miles; at which almost incredible distance, Mr. Bishop assures us, words could be distinctly heard through the telephones used. A brief account of the *modus operandi* might be interesting. Each station is provided with a Siemen's magneto-inductor and bell, for calling attention. The call being responded to on the bell, talking through the telephone begins. The resistance of bells and inductors is equal to about 50 miles of ordinary line wire, so that the shortest resistance worked through, the 14th inst. was equal to at least 50 miles, not including resistance of line wire connecting stations.—*Daily News.*

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Yomiuri Shimbum* states that a notification, issued by the Prime Minister, exhorts the people of Japan to abstain, as far as possible, from the use of imported articles, which they should endeavour to replace by goods of native manufacture, no matter how much higher the price of the latter may be.

Hirayama, the famous pyrotechnist in Gatmachi, Shichome, Yokohama, has joined an English merchant at No. 85 in the settlement, and has contracted to export fireworks to England through him. He received an order for 135 pieces of fireworks from England, which will be displayed in a public park in London.

No definite intelligence as to the rumoured assassination of, or attack upon, Mr. Mori, near Peking, appears to have been received. The *Choya Shimbun* explains the circulation of the report thus:—"A Japanese, residing in Shanghai, where the matter was common talk, telegraphed it to Tokio. It has since been found to be false; but the Chinese seem to have some ill-will to the Minister."

Charcoal fumes are to the full as dangerous in the use of those who do not know how to utilize heat without creating mephitis, as Lytton's Vril force would be in the hands of those who are not of the "Coming Race." In a tenement on lot No. 166 the denizen, on going to bed at two o'clock in the morning on the 8th inst., to create warmth, had two *hibachis* well charged with lighted charcoal put in his room. Two Japanese servants were sleeping on mats in the same appartment. Mr. Gondaresu, the proprietor of the house, was passing it at ten o'clock a.m., on the 9th inst., when he heard such a noise as is only produced by the terrible death rattle. He called a Japanese servant and had the door of the tenement broken open. Entering, he found that the atmosphere of the chamber was stifling, composed, probably, in most part of carbonic acid gas thrown off by the charcoal. One of the two Japanese servants was apparently lifeless, half way between her mat and the door, which she had tried, in the first access of asphyxia, to reach and open; the other seemed in no better condition, lying as she had first sunk to rest. The foreigner was in what might have been, but for timely succour, his death agony. Energetic measures were resorted to a strong solution of vinegar was administered with the result that the male patient was restored to conciousness within twenty minutes. Of the two females one only recovered after patient treatment for more than three hours; and the other this morning, or after being in a state of coma for upwards of twenty hours.—Another case of asphyxia from those fatal charcoal fumes has occurred, this time on board a steamer, but a few hours since in harbour. Monsieur Georges Parrot, first officer of the *Volga*, having dined on board on the 14th instant, retired to his cabin at nine o'clock and went to bed. He had previously caused a *hibachi*, charged with burning charcoal, to be placed therein to warm it. At midnight, when his watch was called, the door of his cabin was rapped. No answer was returned to repeated knocks and calls; and at length the room was broken into, when Mr. Parrot was found dead—suffocated by the poisonous emanations of the charcoal. The body was brought ashore at three o'clock in the morning, and carried to the General Hospital, where an examination was made by Dr. Eldridge in presence of Mr. A. Conil.—*Japan Gazette.*

INTIMATIONS.

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Hongkong, 9th November, 1868. [22

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HOLYROOD, British steamer, Peters.—Siemssen & Co.
JALO, Russian ship, Moberg.—Order.
JAPAN, German 3-m. schooner, Oltmann.—W. Kiser & Co.
JESSIE JAMIESON, British bark, West.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.
JOHN POTTS, British bark, McPherson.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.
KALAJA, Russian bark, Roos.—Chinese.
KATE WATERS, British bark, Giese.—Rozario & Co.
LADY BOWEN, British bark, Fox.—Captain.
MAHARAJAH, British steamer, Clarke.—Siemssen & Co.
MARION, American 3-m. schooner, Howes.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
MAY, British 3-m. schooner, Plumley.—Olyphant & Co.
MIGNON, American bark, Soule.—Captain.
NIAGARA, German bark, Wischhusen.—Melchers & Co.
NIMROD, British bark, Clark.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
NORTHERN STAR, British bark, Wortley.—Wieler & Co.
PAPA, German bark, Blose.—Siemssen & Co.
PERNAMBUCO, British steamer, Hyde.—Melchers & Co.
QUICKSTEP, American bark, Barnaby.—Master.
RADNORSHIRE, British steamer, Thompson.—H. Kiser & Co.
RAPID, Siamese bark, Hunte.—Tack Mee Hop Kee.
RUBICON, British 3-m. schooner, Timmsen.—Meyer & Co.
SAMAR, American ship, Miller.—Captain.
SIN NANZING, British steamer, Drage.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
SUMATRA, American ship, Clough.—Order.
THORKILK, German brig, Baade.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
TUTUILA, German schooner, Loser.—Captain.
UZZIAH, British 3-m. schooner, Harudge.—Wieler & Co.
VELOCITY, British bark, Martin.—Wm. Pustau & Co.
WARRIOR, British bark, Baumann.—Wieler & Co.
WILDWOOD, American ship, Harriman.—Messageries Maritimes.
ZANZIBAR, British steamer, G. Fox.—Captain.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR SHANGHAI, HIOGO, AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship "GLENORCHY," Captain Hogg, will be despatched for the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 2nd February, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents Steamship "Glenorchy."

Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [284

FOR SAIGON.

THE German Steamship "ALTONA," Müller, Master, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 4th February next, at 2 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to WM. PUSTAU & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [235

FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.

THE British Steamer "CAIRNSMUIR," will have immediate despatch as above.

For Freight, apply to HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 22nd January, 1878. [201

FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE German Steamship "GALATEA," Böhme, Master, will be despatched as above towards the end of February, 1878.

For Freight or Passage, apply to WM. PUSTAU & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [236

FOR GENOA AND MARSEILLES, VIA INTERMEDIATE PORTS.

THE A1 Rubattino Steamer "INDIA," Captain Dodero, 1,700 tons capacity, will be despatched from Singapore for Penang (optional), Galle or Colombo, Aden (optional), Suez, Port Said, Naples, Leghorn (optional), Genoa, and Marseilles, taking through Cargo for Ancona, Venice, and Trieste, and Ports of the Mediterranean, on WEDNESDAY, the 20th of February, and has room for Cargo and Splendid Accommodation for Passengers, carrying a Surgeon and Stewardess.

This Line offers cheapest opportunity to travellers for visiting the chief ports of Italy by interrupting the voyage at Naples, whence the same may be continued to Genoa and Marseilles without payment of additional Passage Money, by the Company's Steamers running twice a week between the different ports of Italy.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents in China, are prepared to grant through Bills of Lading.

For Freight or Passage, and all further Particulars, apply to CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents in China for Messrs. R. RUBATTINO & Co., Genoa.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1878. [165

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE A1 American Bark "B. F. WATSON," Hawkins, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have immediate despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [237

FOR NEW YORK.

THE A1 German Bark "NIAGARA," Wishhusen, Master, will load for the above Port, and will have immediate despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.

Hongkong 30th January, 1878. [238

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON).

THE A1 British Bark "LADY BOWEN," Fox, Master, will load for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1878. [239

FOR HAMBURG.

THE A1 British Barque "ANTIPODES," Captain Wyeth, will load here as above.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1878. [226

FOR NEW YORK.

THE A1 American Barkentine "MARION," R. Howes, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have immediate despatch.

For Freight, apply to VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1878. [107

FOR SAIGON.

THE American Barque "ADA WISWELL," Captain Wiswell, will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 18th January, 1878. [187

FOR LONDON.

THE 100 A1 British Ship "BROOMHALL," H. Bate, Master, will load here and have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1878. [129

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of $65,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHERS & Co.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1876. [20

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at Current Rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1868. [25

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

CAPITAL TAELS 400,000; EQUAL TO $555,555.55.

DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, of the Lai Hing Firm.

CHAN SHUNG LAI, of the Lai Yuen Firm.

WONG YIK PUN, of the Chun Cheong Wing Hong.

LOO YEE, of the Yee On Firm.

FONG SOEY FUNG, of the Tung Sang Wo Hong.

WONG PAK CHEONG, of the San Tye Loo Hong.

PUN PONG, of the Wy Sing Firm.

MANAGER—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS on Goods, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to Australia, California, Manila, Singapore, Saigon, Penang, and to all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan.

Head Office, 48, Bonham Strand.

Hongkong, 1st June, 1877. [133

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Policies at current rates, payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China, and Australia.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.

A discount of 20 °/ₒ allowed.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000, at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1872. [18

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, MALTA, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, SOUTHAMPTON, AND LONDON; ALSO, BOMBAY, MADRAS, AND CALCUTTA.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "MIRZAPORE," Captain PARISH, will leave this on THURSDAY, the 31st January, at Noon.

Tea and General Cargo for London will be conveyed *via* Bombay, without transhipment, arriving one week later than by the direct route. Silk and Valuables will be transferred to the Calcutta steamer at Galle.

For further Particulars, apply to ADAM LIND, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 19th January, 1878.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, IN CONNECTION WITH THE CENTRAL AND UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANIES AND ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE Steamship "OCEANIC" will be despatched for San Francisco, *via* Yokohama, on FRIDAY, the 1st February, at 3 P.M., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Connection is made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 31st January. PARCEL PACKAGES will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

A REDUCTION is made on RETURN PASSAGE TICKETS.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 87, Queen's Road Central.

G. B. EMORY, Agent.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1878.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMALIA, PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLES; ALSO, PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND BOMBAY.

ON THURSDAY, the 7th February, 1878, at Noon, the Company's Steamship "SINDH," Commandant BRUNET, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M. Specie and Parcels until 3 P.M. on the 6th February, 1878. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.) Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

H. DU POUEY, Agent.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1878.

G. FALCONER AND CO., WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS AND JEWELLERS. NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS, AND BOOKS. No. 48, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

TAI YUNE, COMPRADORE AND GENERAL STOREKEEPER, 2 CENTRAL MARKET. SHIPS AND PRIVATE FAMILIES SUPPLIED WITH THE BEST PROVISIONS.

AH YON, SHIPS' COMPRADORE AND STEVEDORE, No. 57, PRAYA WEST, SHIPPING SUPPLIED WITH ALL KINDS OF COAL, WATER, BALLAST, FRESH PROVISIONS, and OILMAN'S STORES, Of the Best Quality and at the Shortest Notice.

Hongkong, January 1st, 1878. [82

JOHN SKINKER, 115, PINE STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, Sole Agent on the Pacific Coast for WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS Co.'s Repeating Rifles, Carbines, and Muskets, Model 1866 and 1873; Plain Mounted, or Gold, Silver, or Nickel-Plated, and Beautifully Engraved. METALLIC CARTRIDGES of all sizes and kinds for Pistols or Rifles of their make. [6m125

NOW ON SALE.

THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION AND STUDENT'S FIRST ASSISTANCE, By DR. DEVAN, With many Additions, Corrections, and Dr. WILLIAMS' Orthography.

PRICE:—

In Paper Wrapper $1.50

Neatly Bound $2.00

Apply at the *Daily Press* Office.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, having traded in Tea for twenty years with English Merchants, has within the last two years sustained a loss of several tens of thousands of taels, which he has been unable to pay. He now advertises to sell his Stock-in-Trade, so that with the proceeds he may pay his Liabilities. His business was closed on the 30th December, 1877, and from the 1st January, 1878, there will be no more Tea bearing the Chop of the Undersigned in the market for Sale. To prevent imitations of his Chop on Tea being offered to the Public, he requests all Customers in future to pay particular attention to the Chops offered for sale.

ASSAI, of MING-KEE, Macao.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1877. [130

TRADE [illegible] MARK.

CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON AND CO., WESTERN WORKS, SHEFFIELD, Manufacturers of the highest class ENGINEER'S CAST STEEL, FILES, TOOLS, CUTLERY, &c.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HONGKONG AND CHINA, HARRIS, GOODWIN AND Co., HONGKONG and SHANGHAI, who will always carry a large Stock of Files, Cutlery, and other Goods. [3m1348

THE CHUNG NGOI SAN PO (Chinese *Daily Press*) PUBLISHED DAILY, Is the best medium for Advertising among the Native Community.

It has been established upwards of TWENTY YEARS, and enjoys the largest *bona fide* circulation of any Chinese paper in the South of China. It is carefully edited by an experienced Chinese Scholar, and contains FULL and RELIABLE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at the Office, Wyndham Street, Hongkong; or from the different Agents.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1877.

POST-OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For New York and United States, via Suez.—To-day, the 31st instant, at 0.30 P.M.

For Amoy, Tamsui, and Taiwan.—Per *Hai-loong*, to-day, the 31st instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai.—To-day, the 31st instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Bangkok.—To-morrow, the 1st proximo, at 1.30 P.M.

For Shanghai, Hiogo, and Yokohama.—Per *Glenorchy*, to-morrow, the 1st proximo, at 5 P.M.

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.

The English Contract Packet "MIRZAPORE" will be despatched with the Mails for Europe, &c., on THURSDAY, the 31st instant.

The following will be the hours of closing the Mails, &c.

WEDNESDAY, 30th instant.

5 P.M., Money Order Office closes.

6 P.M., Post Office closes except the NIGHT BOX, which remains open all night.

THURSDAY, 31st instant.

7 A.M., Post Office opens for sale of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and Posting of all correspondence.

10 A.M., Post Office closes except for Late Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.

10.15 A.M., Letters may be posted on payment of a Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage, until.

11 A.M., when the Post Office CLOSES entirely.

11.30 A.M., Letters (but Letters only) addressed to the United Kingdom *via Brindisi*, or to Singapore, may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage, until

11.50 A.M., when the Mail is finally closed.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet "OCEANIC" will be despatched on FRIDAY, the 1st February, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, and the United States, which will be CLOSED as follows:—

2 P.M. Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 P.M. Post Office closes, but Letters (except for Non-Union Countries) may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage, until the time of departure.

Correspondence for Non-Union West Indies (except the Bahamas and Hayti), Costa Rica, Honduras, Monte Video, New Granada, Paraguay, and Uruguay can no longer be sent by this route.

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet "SINDH" will be despatched from Hongkong on THURSDAY, the 7th February, with Mails to and through the United Kingdom and Europe, *via* Marseilles; to Saigon, Singapore, Batavia, Galle, Pondicherry, Madras, Calcutta, Bombay, Aden, Suez, and Alexandria.

The following will be the hours of CLOSING the Mails, &c.

WEDNESDAY, 6th February.

5 P.M., Money Order Office closes. Post Office closes except the NIGHT BOX, which remains open all night.

THURSDAY, 7th February.

7 A.M., Post Office opens for sale of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and Posting of all correspondence.

10 A.M., Registry of Letters ceases.

11 A.M., Post Office closes except for Late Letters.

11.10 A.M., Letters (but Letters only) may be posted on payment of a Late Fee of 18 cents extra postage, until

11.30 A.M., when the Post Office CLOSES entirely.

REGISTRATION TO BANGKOK.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for Siam has been good enough to make arrangements by means of which correspondence can be Registered to Bangkok, at the usual charge of 8 cents.

COMMUNICATION WITH BATAVIA.

The Netherlands India Packets leave Singapore fortnightly, and are fitted to the arrival of the outward P. & O. Mail from Europe.

The French Packets for Batavia wait at Singapore for the Packet from China, and run fortnightly.

It follows that, to forward Correspondence to Batavia with the least delay, the following are the best opportunities:—

In the S.W. Monsoon.

The English Mail.

The French Mail.

In the N.E. Monsoon.

A Private Steamer a few days before the English Mail.

The French Mail.

There will be communication with Australia, *via* Batavia and Port Darwin, as follows:—

LEAVE HONGKONG BY FRENCH PACKET		
July 7th.	September 15th.	November 29th.
LEAVE BATAVIA.		
July 20th.	October 1st.	December 13th.
DUE AT PORT DARWIN.		
July 31st.	October 12th.	December 24th.
DUE AT SYDNEY.		
August 19th.	October 31st.	January 12th.
DUE AT MELBOURNE.		
August 25th.	November 6th.	January 18th.
DUE AT ADELAIDE.		
August 31st.	November 12th.	January 24th.

For the present the correspondence can only be paid to Batavia, from which place it may possibly be forwarded without further charge.

The attention of owners, agents, and charterers of steamers is drawn to the provisions of The Post Office Ordinance, 1876, which comes into force on the 23rd instant.

Under the old Ordinance no notice was required of the departure of a vessel if not advertised, nor of departures for Canton or Macao. Notice is now required of any departure, though with regard to sailing ships, the old rule will practically remain in force, that notice need not be sent unless asked for.

Section XXV. requires that the first notice be sent to the Post Office.

In the case of steamers plying regularly or on fixed days, notice of any change in the day or hour will be sufficient.

Stamped correspondence may still be sent on board any vessel after the Mail is closed at the Post Office.

The Postmaster-General takes this opportunity of calling the attention of firms to the fact that any such words as Despatches will close at 11 A.M., added to the advertisement of a vessel are illegal. Consignees' letters are exempted by law from passing through the Post Office, but no person is allowed to make collection of such letters for transmission under a penalty of £100 per week during which the practice continued.

Most countries to which Hongkong forwards Correspondence having joined the General Postal Union or being probably about to do so, it is necessary that the following rules be strictly observed.

1.—No Letter or Packet, whether to be registered or unregistered, can be received for Postage if it contains gold or silver money, jewels, precious articles, or anything that, as a general rule, is liable to Customs duties.

2.—This Regulation prohibits the sending of Patterns of dutiable articles, unless the quantity sent be so small as to make the sample of no value.

3.—The limits of weight allowed are as follows:—

BOOKS AND PAPERS.—To British Offices, 5lb.

PATTERNS.—5lb., if without intrinsic value.

BOOKS AND PAPERS.—To the Continent, &c., 2lb.

PATTERNS.—8 oz.

4.—The following articles cannot be sent by Post at all:—Glass, Liquids, Gunpowder, Matches, Candles, Soap, Indigo, Dye-stuffs, or whatever is dangerous to the Mails or offensive or injurious to persons dealing with them.

PARCELS.

The public is reminded that, in China and Japan, there is no much thing as Parcel Post. Much trouble and disappointment is caused by persistent attempts to send small valuable trifles through the Post. Fans, Curios, Articles of Dress, Fancy Work, and similar presents are continually being refused, the senders having often spent more in Postage than would have paid the freight by steamer. No refund can be made on such parcels of the value of Stamps obliterated before the nature of the contents are discovered.

PATTERNS.

Some difficulty is experienced in obtaining a general understanding of *what is a Pattern*. It is a *bona fide* sample of goods which the sender has for sale, or of goods which he wishes to order. It is to consist of the smallest possible quantity compatible with showing what the goods are, and must have no intrinsic value.

Printed and Published by R. CHATTERTON WILCOX, Wyndham Street, Hongkong.